

*Children's Address:*

*John 1:14*

*A blessed Christmas to you all! Today, God became flesh and blood when He was born in Bethlehem.*

*Do you sometimes feel down in the dumps? Sometimes life can make you feel as though everyone and everything is against you. Maybe you have had an argument, been disobedient, or have been hurt in some way.*

*John tells us today that "The Word became flesh and dwelt among us" (John 1:14). The event of the Word (Jesus) becoming a man is an encouragement when we suffer. That event is encouraging when we feel defeated, because it means we are not alone in facing our problems. That event helps us overcome despair (suffering without hope), because Christmas is a hopeful event. God gave us His Son. God said that He would come, and God kept that promise!*

*The Son of God is the One who makes the Father known. From God's fullness, we receive grace upon grace, setting us free to be the people we were intended to be when we were born. He said He would come and do all this, and He did. One of our problems is that we have heard the story so often, we don't really hear it. So let's take the time this year to hear the Christmas story once again, and celebrate today by rejoicing that Jesus has been born!*

*Thank You, Jesus, for being born in Bethlehem. On this day of Your birthday, help me to remember that You are my Saviour, who helps me in all my troubles. Happy Birthday Jesus! Amen.*