



THE MIRACLE IN YOU

CHRISTMAS

¹⁸This was how the birth of Jesus Christ took place. His mother Mary was engaged to Joseph, but before they were married, she found out that she was going to have a baby by the Holy Spirit. ¹⁹Joseph was a man who always did what was right, but he did not want to disgrace Mary publicly; so he made plans to break the engagement privately. ²⁰While he was thinking about this, an angel of the Lord appeared to him in a dream and said, "Joseph, descendant of David, do not be afraid to take Mary to be your wife.

Matthew 1:18-25 (GNT)

For it is by the Holy Spirit that she has conceived. ²¹She will have a son, and you will name him Jesus-because he will save his people from their sins." ²²Now all this happened in order to make come true what the Lord had said through the prophet, ²³"A virgin will become pregnant and have a son, and he will be called Immanuel" (which means, "God is with us"). ²⁴So when Joseph woke up, he married Mary, as the angel of the Lord had told him to. ²⁵But he had no sexual relations with her before she gave birth to her son. And Joseph named him Jesus.

Matthew 1:18-25 (GNT)

THE MIRACLE OF PRESENCE

“The term Immanuel describes what Christ does. It describes the event of incarnation. He will be called Immanuel because He will be the incarnate presence of God with us, but His proper Jewish name will be Jesus, because ‘He will save his people from their sins.’”

R.C. Sproul

The Miracle of Presence is your spiritual and emotional insurance and assurance that you are not rejected.

He's With You

**Devise your strategy, but it will be thwarted; propose your plan,
but it will not stand, for God is with us.**

Isaiah 8:10 (NIV)

It is a poor thing to strike our colors to God when the ship is going down under us; a poor thing to come to Him as a last resort, to offer up "our own" when it is no longer worth keeping. If God were proud He would hardly have us on such terms: but He is not proud, He stoops to conquer, He will have us even though we have shown that we prefer everything else to Him

C.S. Lewis

. . . and come to Him because there is "nothing better" now to be had. The same humility is shown by all those divine appeals to our fears, which trouble high-minded readers of scripture. It is hardly complimentary to God that we should choose Him as an alternative to Hell: yet even this He accepts.

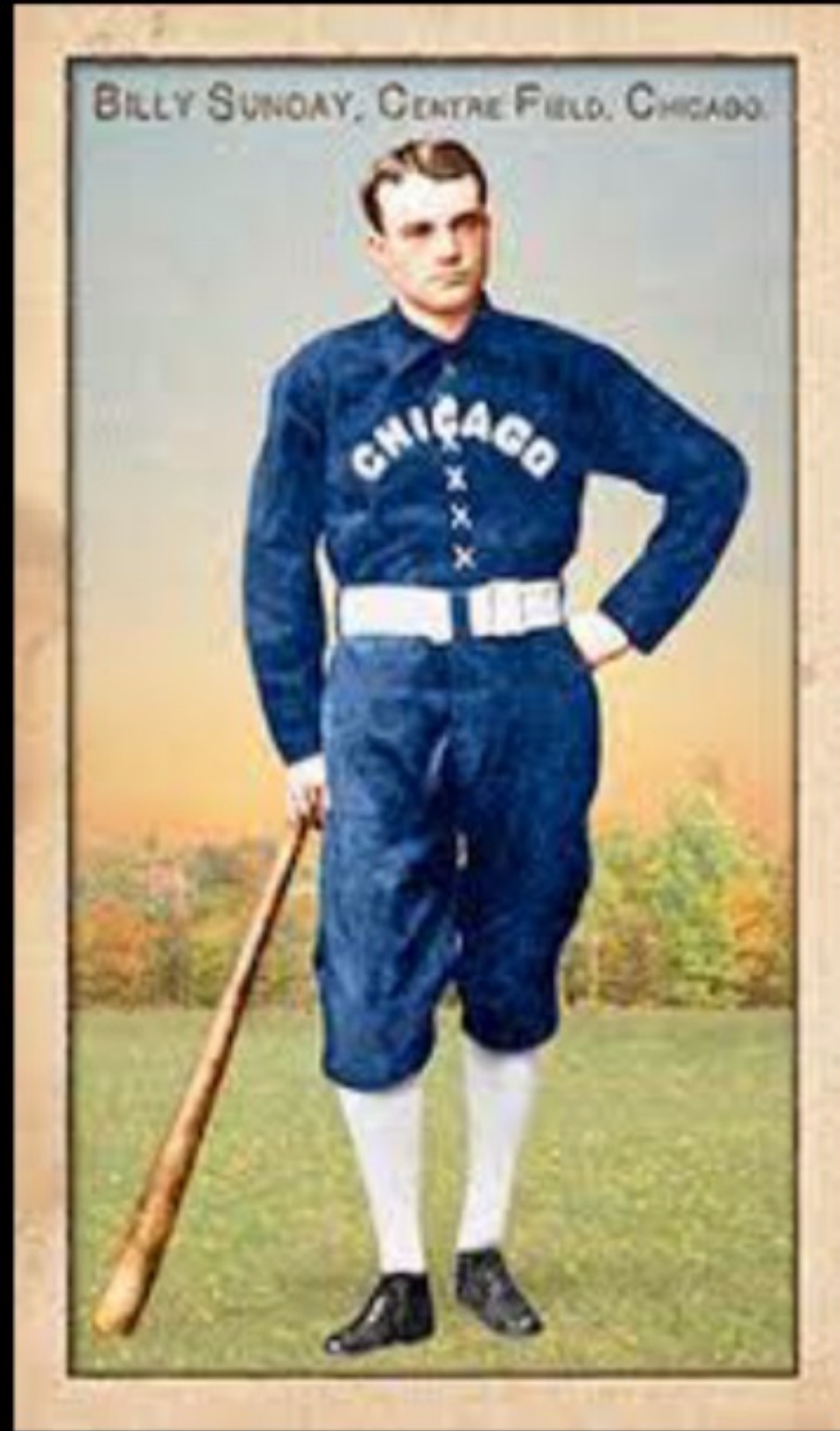
C.S. Lewis

“Love is exultant when it unites equals, but it is triumphant when it makes that which was unequal equal in love.”

Soren Keirkegaard

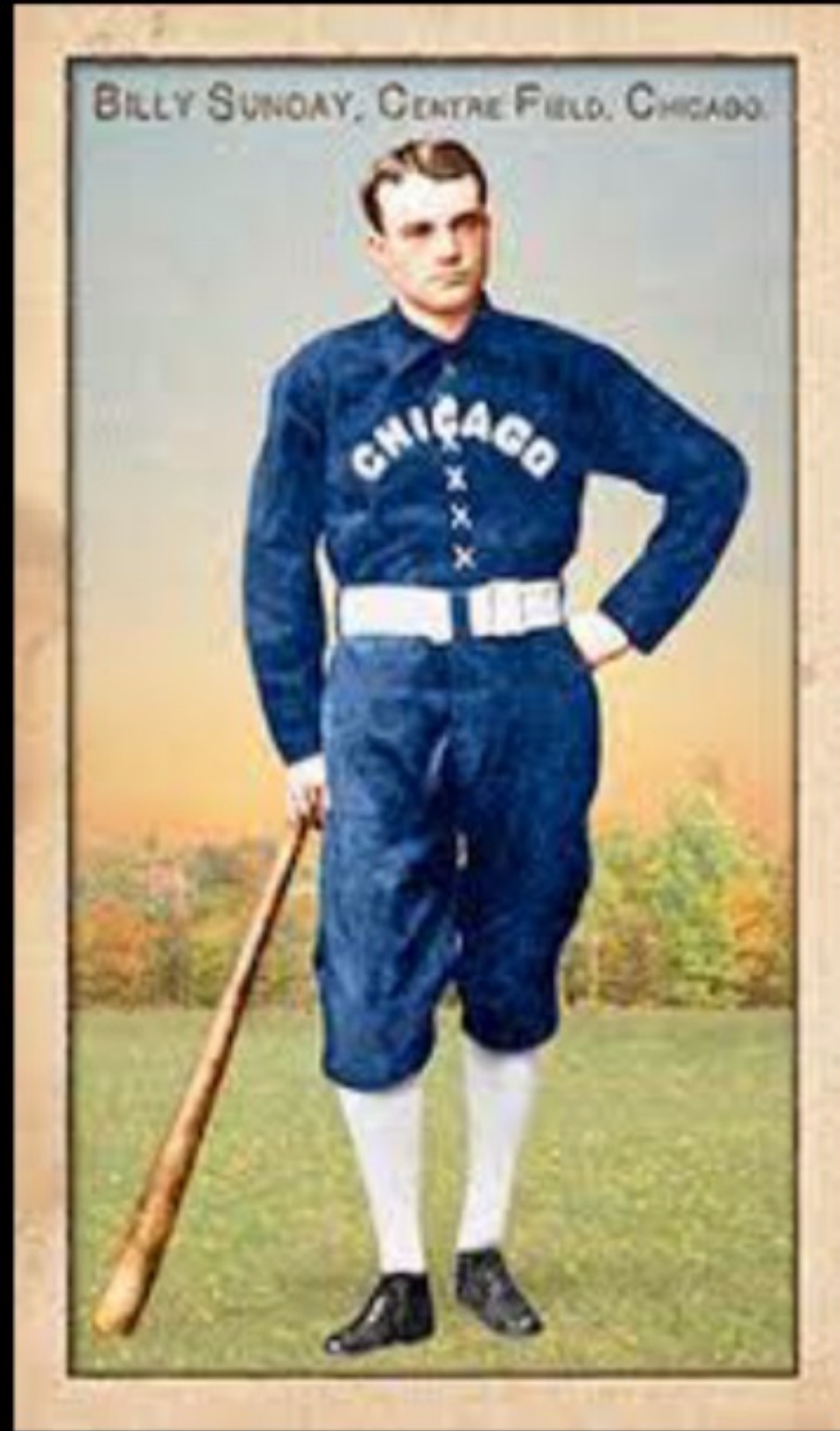
**He's With You When
You're With Others**

Billy Sunday 1862-1935



One Sunday afternoon in Chicago, a group of ballplayers entered a saloon. When they emerged, they saw a group of people playing instruments, singing gospel hymns, and testifying of Christ's power to save from sin. Memories of a log cabin in Iowa, an old church, and a godly mother raced through the mind of one of the ballplayers. Tears came to his eyes. He said, "Boys, I'm through! I'm going to turn to Jesus Christ. We've come to the parting of the ways." Some of his companions mocked him, but others were silent. Only one encouraged him. He turned from the group and entered the Pacific Garden Mission. Later the ballplayer told what occurred...

Billy Sunday 1862-1935



“I called upon God’s mercy. I staggered out of my sins into the outstretched arms of the Savior. I became instantly a new creature in Him!” The next morning at practice, my manager, Mike Kelly, greeted me and said, “Billy, I read in the paper what occurred yesterday. Religion isn’t my long suit, but I won’t knock you, and I’ll knock the daylights out of anyone who does.” The converted ballplayer was Billy Sunday, who became the world-renowned evangelist.

