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This page is designed for you to apply what you have learned from the Scriptures.

Our goal is not just "to know" but to "act upon what we know." (His Word, Our Walk!) We encourage you to discuss the following questions with family, friends and your group.

### FOR DISCUSSION:

1. What quality of Joseph do you like the best and why?

2. Why was Joseph's dream so important?
Have you had dreams that seemed so real and how have you responded?

- 3. Why did the Old Testament help Joseph?
- 4. Do you think you would be willing to be "shamed" to bring honor to the Lord?
- 5. Your best thought from this study?





December 9 & 10, 2017 | Joseph - Not Forgotten | Matt. 1 | Dennis Miller, pastor

# **TWO LESSONS FOR FOCUS:**

1. God has a plan and purpose for EVERY life.

Rom. 12:2 Do not conform to the pattern of this world, but be transformed by the renewing of your mind. Then you will be able to test and approve what God's will is—his good, pleasing and perfect will.

2. Although we may sometimes FEEL insignificant, God SEES and REMEMBERS our work and love forever.

Heb. 6:10 God is not unjust; he will not forget your work and the love you have shown him as you have helped his people and continue to help them.

## **SCRIPTURES**

Matt. 1:18 This is how the birth of Jesus the Messiah came about: His mother Mary was pledged to be married to Joseph, but before they came together, she was found to be pregnant through the Holy Spirit. 19 Because Joseph her husband was faithful to the law, and yet did not want to expose her to public disgrace, he had in mind to divorce her quietly.

Matt. 1:20 But after he had considered this, an angel of the Lord appeared to him in a dream and said, "Joseph son of David, do not be afraid to take Mary home as your wife, because what is conceived in her is from the Holy Spirit. 21 She will give birth to a son, and you are to give him the name Jesus, because he will save his people from their sins."

Matt. 1:22 All this took place to fulfill what the Lord had said through the prophet: 23 "The virgin will conceive and give birth to a son, and they will call him Immanuel" (which means "God with us").

Matt. 1:24 When Joseph woke up, he did what the angel of the Lord had commanded him and took Mary home as his wife. 25 But he did not consummate their marriage until she gave birth to a son. And he gave him the name Jesus.

# THE DREAD — ADULTERY

Matt. 1:18 This is how the birth of Jesus the Messiah came about: His mother Mary was pledged to be married to Joseph, but before they came together, she was found to be pregnant through the Holy Spirit. 19 Because Joseph her husband was faithful to the law, and yet did not want to expose her to public disgrace, he had in mind to divorce her quietly.

1. The same word "GENESIS" (γέννησις) is used again as it was in verse ONE.

Matt.1:1 This is the genealogy of Jesus the Messiah the son of David, . . .

2. Mary was "PLEDGED" or engaged to Joseph and yet culturally it was understood DIFFERENTLY than today.

Luke 1:27 to a virgin pledged to be married to a man named Joseph, . . .

Kiddushin — engagement for ONE year to test FIDELITY and commitment. No RELATIONS, but called husband and WIFE.

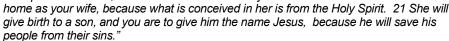
*Nisu'in* — the WEDDING performed under the "chupah." After this celebration the couple LIVES together as married.

- 3. Mary CLAIMED to be pregnant through the HOLY SPIRIT.
- 4. And Joseph had TWO options:
  - a. A PUBLIC divorce where Mary would be PUNISHED;
- b. Or a PRIVATE divorce with TWO witnesses. And this is the option that Joseph CHOSE as he was a "righteous man."

Matt. 1:19 and Joseph her husband being righteous, and not willing to make her an example, did wish privately to send her away. (Young's)

# THE DREAM — AN ANGEL

Matt. 1:20 But after he had considered this, an angel of the Lord appeared to him in a dream and said, "Joseph son of David, do not be afraid to take Mary



1. While thinking about his NEXT STEP, Joseph fell asleep and an ANGEL appeared to him.

Matt. 1:20 And on his thinking of these things, lo, a messenger of the Lord in a dream appeared to him, . . . (Young's)

2. The angel CONFIRMED that the child was conceived by the Holy Spirit and that Joseph should take Mary HOME as his wife.

Luke 1:35 The angel answered, "The Holy Spirit will come on you, and the power of the Most High will overshadow you. So the holy one to be born will be called the Son of God.

3. The angel also gave a REPORT on the sex of the child (son), the NAME for the child (Yeshua, ישוע) and the PURPOSE for the name (he will save).

### THE DOCTRINE — AUTHORITY

Matt. 1:22 All this took place to fulfill what the Lord had said through the prophet: 23 "The virgin will conceive and give birth to a son, and they will call him Immanuel" (which means "God with us").

1. Matthew reminds us that this is NOTHING NEW as it was prophesied in the Old Testament and, of course, a righteous man like Joseph would have KNOWN these scriptures.

Is. 7:14 Therefore the Lord himself will give you a sign: The virgin will conceive and give birth to a son, and will call him Immanuel.

Gen. 3:15 and enmity I put between thee and the woman, and between thy seed and her seed; he doth bruise thee — the head, and thou dost bruise him — the heel.'

- 2. Matthew also uses the GREEK word for virgin here: parthenos, παρθένος to affirm that Mary was PURE.
- 3. ANOTHER name for Jesus was given; Immanuel. Why? Because this is what "THEY will call him." Many people realized that He was truly GOD and would declare His name Immanuel (עָמָנוּ אֵל, Εμμανουήλ, Emmanuel). Emmanu-El.

### THE DOING — ACCEPTANCE

Matt. 1:24 When Joseph woke up, he did what the angel of the Lord had commanded him and took Mary home as his wife. 25 But he did not consummate their marriage until she gave birth to a son. And he gave him the name Jesus.

- Even though it was a dream, HE DID what the angel had commanded even though it brought DIFFICULTY for him.
- 2. But HE DID NOT have relations with her UNTIL she gave birth to Jesus.
  - 3. And JOSEPH GAVE Him the name Jesus (*Yeshua*, ישוע).

Matt. 13:55 Is not this the carpenter's son? Is not his mother called Mary? And are not his brothers James and Joseph and Simon and Judas?

