December 4th, 2022

**Text

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**Week 2:**

**The Faith of a Power Couple**

*Matthew 1:18-21 (NIV)*

1. **Joseph’s \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ Was…**

*“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. 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****.” Matthew 1:18-19 (NIV)*

1. Willing to \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ the law
2. Willing to love \_\_\_\_\_ despite being hurt
3. Willing to \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ self (humble)
4. **Joseph’s \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ Meant…**

*“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.*** *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.****’” Matthew 1:20-21 (NIV)*

1. \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

*“Joseph son of David, do not be afraid…”*

1. \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

*“…what is conceived in her is from the Holy Spirit…”*

1. \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

*“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.”*

1. **Joseph and Mary (\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ of God)**
2. \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

*“‘I am the Lord’s servant’, Mary answered.”*

*Luke 1:38a (NIV)*

They allowed God’s voice to be loudest.

1. \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

*“When Joseph woke up, he did what the angel of the Lord had commanded him and took Mary home as his wife.” Matthew 1:24 (NIV)*

They took risks, but risks taken in line with God’s instructions came with the promise of His strength and favor.

1. \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

*“While they were there, the time came for the baby to be born, and she gave birth to her firstborn, a son. She wrapped Him in cloths and placed Him in a manger, because there was no guest room available for them.” Luke 2:6-7 (NIV)*

They trusted that God’s favor might look like a donkey and a manger instead of a white stallion and chariot.

1. **Our Christmas Challenge**
2. Am I listening?

*“Whoever has ears, let them hear.” Matthew 11:15 (NIV)*

1. Am I obeying?

*“In fact, this is love for God: to keep His commands. And His commands are not burdensome, for everyone born of God overcomes the world. This is the victory that has overcome the world, even our faith.” 1 John 5:3-4 (NIV)*

1. Am I trusting?

*“When I am afraid, I put my trust in You. In God, whose word I praise—in God I trust and am not afraid. What can mere mortals do to me.” Psalm 56:3-4 (NIV)*

**Bottom Line:**

Faith in God is evidenced by a life in God.

**To begin a relationship with Jesus…**

**Text: IChooseJesus to 570-273-0088**

Notetakers are history makers.

**Next Sunday: Pastor Branden Mestach**

**Week 3: A Family Christmas:**

**The Joy of a Unified Family**



**Stewardship Update**

**Giving last Sunday: 74.5%**

**Giving year to date: 90.1%**

**Last Sunday weekend attendance: 1,973**

**Salvations to date: 173 | Baptisms to date: 40**

**Upcoming Happenings:**

**December 9 Christmas Encounter**

**December 11 Women’s Ministry’s Buffalo Valley**

**Christmas Cookie Drive**

**December 24 Christmas Eve:**

**Milton Campus: 3:00p, 4:30p, and 6:00p**

**Sunbury Campus: 3:00p and 4:30p**