

## **WHY JOSEPH?**

*Why Christmas? – Part 2*

*December 6, 2009*

**Matthew 1:18-25**

### **THE DRAMA OF CHRISTMAS...**

#### **1. JOSEPH'S DISCOVERY**

*"This is how the birth of Jesus Christ came about: His mother Mary was pledged to be married to Joseph, but before they came together, she was found to be with child through the Holy Spirit." vs. 18 (NIV)*

#### **2. JOSEPH'S DILEMMA**

*"Because Joseph, her husband, was a righteous man and did not want to expose her to public disgrace, he had in mind to divorce her quietly." vs. 19 (NIV)*

#### **3. JOSEPH'S DREAM**

*"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.'" vs. 20 (NIV)*  
*(vs. 21-23)*

#### **4. JOSEPH'S DECISION**

*"When Joseph woke up, he did what the angel of the Lord had commanded him and took Mary home as his wife, but he had no union with her until she gave birth to a son. And he gave Him the name Jesus." vs. 24-25 (NIV)*

### **LESSONS FROM JOSEPH AT CHRISTMAS**

#### **A. GOD IS PRESENT AT THE END OF BROKEN DREAMS.**

*"The Lord is close to the brokenhearted and saves those who are crushed in spirit." Psalm 34:18 (NIV)*

*"There is none like the God of Jerusalem--He descends from the heavens in majestic splendor to help you. The eternal God is your refuge, and underneath are the everlasting arms. He thrusts out your enemies before you..."*  
*Deuteronomy 26-27 (LB)*

## **B. GOD IS FAITHFUL TO HIS WORD.**

*"Therefore the Lord Himself will give you a sign: The virgin will be with child and will give birth to a Son, and will call Him Immanuel." Isaiah 7:14 (NIV)*

*"Not one of all the Lord's good promises to the house of Israel failed: everyone was fulfilled." Joshua 21:45 (NIV)*

## **C. OBEDIENCE IS THE KEY TO SIGNIFICANCE.**

*"For we are God's masterpiece. He has created us anew in Christ Jesus, so that we can do the good things He planned for us long ago." Ephesians 2:10 (NLT)*

*"But Samuel replied, "What is more pleasing to the LORD: your burnt offerings and sacrifices or your obedience to His voice? Obedience is far better than sacrifice. Listening to Him is much better than offering the fat of rams."  
1 Samuel 15:22 (NLT)*