

The Christmas Miracle

Matthew 1:18-25

¹⁸This 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. ¹⁹Because 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.

²⁰But 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. ²¹She will give birth to a son, and you are to give him the name Jesus, because he will save his people from their sins."

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

²⁴When Joseph woke up, he did what the angel of the Lord had commanded him and took Mary home as his wife. ²⁵But he had no union with her until she gave birth to a son. And he gave him the name Jesus.

Are you expecting God to do a miracle?

1. _____ are possible and it's possible you'll be part of one.

"Nothing is impossible with God." Luke 1:37

- Be _____
- For a _____

We've already experienced a miracle gift

2. God has entrusted us with His _____

We can share the miracle gift

3. God has entrusted us with His _____

"You are to give him the name Jesus, because he will save his people from their sins." Matthew 1:21

Daily Growth

Use these 4-C questions below to help you study each day's scripture.

CELEBRATE: What can you praise God for from this passage?

CONFESS: Are you convicted of something you need to confess to God?

COMMIT: What commitment does this passage challenge you to make?

COMMUNICATE: What did you learn that you can share with someone?

Day 1: Read Matthew 1:18-25. Is there a word or short phrase from the passage that stands out to you? What reason might God be drawing your attention to this word? Meditate on why it catches your attention. What is God saying to you (use the "4 C" questions)?

Day 2: Read Matthew 1:18-19. Would you have had the same compassion Joseph showed Mary even though it appeared she had slept with another man, or would you have had an angrier reaction? Can you think of some recent times when you failed to react as compassionately as Joseph? What does this tell you about the transformation God wants to do in your life? Why not take a moment now to confess those times where you failed to show compassion and then ask God to increase this trait in your life.

Day 3: Imagine in what ways you might be similar to Joseph? God entrusted his greatest mission to Joseph's care. List all the things God has entrusted to you. For each item on your list, in what ways are you (or can you) honor that trust? What is God saying to you (use the "4 C" questions)?

Day 4: Read Matthew 1:24. Are you aware of what God has commended you? If not, your continued study of the Bible will help. Is there an area where you struggle to do what God has commanded? What is it? Why do you think it is a struggle? What concrete steps can you take to improve in following God's commands? Will you take those steps? What is God saying to you (use the "4 C" questions)?

Day 5: Read Matthew 1:21-23. God became a baby and entrusted himself to Joseph? God now entrusts his presence to every believer. What is your react and respond to that truth?

Day 6: Read Matthew 28:16-20. We have jumped from the beginning to the end. What else has God entrusted to you? Who will you share the Good News with? What is God saying to you (use the "4 C" questions)?