

December 9, 2018

**Speaker:** Tim McCardel

**Message Series:** A Journey To Christmas

**Today's Message:** Joseph's Obedience: Disrupted Plans

⇒ **Last week's questions:** "How would your life be \_\_\_\_\_ if Jesus Christ had not been born?" ... "What if Jesus had not come?"

**Listen to This:** "I have no problem preaching to the choir. Just because they know the tune, doesn't mean they \_\_\_\_\_ the words."

1 Corinthians 2:4, 5 "And my message and my preaching were very plain. Rather than using clever and persuasive speeches, I relied only on the power of the Holy Spirit. I did this so you would not trust in human wisdom but in the power of God."

\* Matthew 1:18-25

\* **Truth:** Following God's plan will require change in your life but it's worth it.

### **1. Joseph—"Faithful to The Law": A Truly \_\_\_\_\_ Man**

Matthew 1:19 "Because Joseph her husband was faithful to the law, and yet did not want to expose her to public disgrace..."

\* **Joseph's Godly Life**—He knew God's Word (O.T.) and had a desire to please God over his own reputation: he loved Mary and did not want to disgrace her publicly.

\* "It's easier to \_\_\_\_\_ strong children than repair broken men." ~Frederick Douglas

#### **Joseph's Example:**

1) Mary becoming pregnant thru the Holy Spirit certainly \_\_\_\_\_ Joseph to areas of faith, growth, and courage where he had never imagined!

2) Joseph doesn't act impulsively, but rather was open to \_\_\_\_\_ from God and His plan.

\* "God speaks to us in our pleasures but He shouts to us in our pain." ~C.S. Lewis

### **2. Following God's Plan Will Require \_\_\_\_\_ In Your Life—BUT IT'S WORTH IT**

\* Matthew 1:20-23

⇒ God is more interested in your character than in your comfort.

#### **Joseph's Life Now:**

1) People thought he was a lying idiot; his life was a mess, and he couldn't control it.

2) Joseph paying attention to the dream from God allows God's peace to win over fear and worry.

**Jesus' Name & Purpose:** "... you are to give Him the name Jesus, because He will save His People from their sins."

"**Jesus**" - same as Joshua and Jeshua in O.T.; it means "the Lord saves."

**“Immanuel”** - “God with us”, Jesus is not only the Messiah, but He is also God, come in the flesh.

### **3. Joseph’s Example of Obedience**

\* Matthew 1:24, 25

**The Danger:** Hearing clearly what God wants and then doing something different.

\* Joseph aligned himself with God’s plan; not just acceptance but embracing God’s disruption.

\* Mary and Joseph lived in harmony, both hearing God and following God; How Wise.

#### **Eternity’s Two Big Questions:**

1) “What did you do with My Son, Jesus Christ?”

2) “Did you fulfill the purpose that I put you on earth for?”

**Truth:** To fail on these 2 questions is more than embarrassment; they both have eternal consequences.