

The Faith of Joseph (Father's Day)

Wylie United Methodist Church

Pastor Jeff Hatcher – June 20, 2021

[Matthew 1:18-25; 2:13-15, 19-23](#)

18 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. 19 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. 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." 22 All 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." 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 had no union with her until she gave birth to a son. And he gave him the name Jesus. 2:1-12 (The Magi) 13 When they (the Magi) had gone, an angel of the Lord appeared to Joseph in a dream. "Get up," he said, "take the child and his mother and escape to Egypt. Stay there until I tell you, for Herod is going to search for the child to kill him." 14 So he got up, took the child and his mother during the night and left for Egypt, 15 where he stayed until the death of Herod. And so was fulfilled what the Lord had said through the prophet: "Out of Egypt I called my son." 16-18 (Herod orders boys up to 2 years old killed) 19 After Herod died, an angel of the Lord appeared in a dream to Joseph in Egypt 20 and said, "Get up, take the child and his mother and go to the land of Israel, for those who were trying to take the child's life are dead." 21 So he got up, took the child and his mother and went to the land of Israel. 22 But when he heard that Archelaus was reigning in Judea in place of his father Herod, he was afraid to go there. Having been warned in a dream, he withdrew to the district of Galilee, 23 and he went and lived in a town called Nazareth. So was fulfilled what was said through the prophets: "He will be called a Nazarene."

Through Joseph, God is teaching us that...

1. CHARACTER TRUMPS REPUTATION

[Matthew 1:19](#)

19 "Joseph her husband was a righteous man and did not want to expose her to public disgrace"

Through Joseph, God is teaching us that...

2. OBEDIENCE TAKES FAITH, COURAGE & ACTION

• JOSEPH TOOK A PREGNANT MARY AS HIS WIFE:

[Matthew 1:24](#)

24 When Joseph woke up, he did what the angel of the Lord had commanded him and took Mary home as his wife.

• JOSEPH FLED TO EGYPT TO SAVE THE CHILD:

[Matthew 2:14](#)

14 So [Joseph] got up, took the child and his mother during the night and left for Egypt.

• JOSEPH RETURNED TO ISRAEL:

[Matthew 2:21](#)

21 So [Joseph] got up, took the child and his mother and went to the land of Israel.

• JOSEPH MOVED TO NAZARETH:

[Matthew 2:22](#)

22... Having been warned in a dream, [Joseph] withdrew to the district of Galilee, 23 and he went and lived in a town called Nazareth.

Through Joseph, God is teaching us that...

3. OBEDIENCE HAS ETERNAL IMPLICATIONS

The consequences of obedience (or disobedience) may not always be immediately visible.

You may be the only Christ that somebody sees.