

## **Matt 1 18-25**

**Theme: Jesus changes lives because he is God come to save us from our sins.**

**App: Do not be afraid to follow Jesus wholeheartedly.**

Who did you want to be in the nativity? Girls want to be Mary or Angel, Boys; in keeper or King, or shepherd.

Today we get to spend time with Joseph.

V19 A righteous man, a respectable man. He is the type of guy who would be concerned about the poor, charity, church, and recycling.

To state it clearly Joseph was like many of us. He always tried to do the right thing. And he wanted to do the right thing because he didn't want to be disgraced. Here is a good man who is concerned about his own reputation. A "good" person who is concerned about their reputation.

He is going to be changed by what he hears in v20-23. He is going to be changed by knowing who Jesus is and why he has come. He is going to be changed so that he is now willing to do what seems crazy and ruin his reputation.

### **The baby is Jesus – he will save his people from their sins**

Joseph and Mary don't get a chance to name this baby.

This baby is going to be called Jesus, or in Hebrew Joshua, meaning God saves. This rest of this verse explains why he is going to be called God saves. He will save his people from their sins. Jesus name is his mission. His name shows his future is already mapped out. This baby is never going to escape his mission, never going to forget it.

What does he save his people from?

In the person of Christ God provides for our greatest need. If our biggest problem was money then he would have send a clever economist, if it was guilt and sadness he would have sent a therapist and a comedian, if it was insecurity he would have sent us a bodyguard. But it isn't our deepest need is that we need saving, we need a saviour and we need saving from our sin.

### **The baby is Immanuel - he is God with us**

V22 Marys mysterious pregnancy has happened to fulfil Isaiah 7:14. He is this messianic figure who is born of a virgin. He is God with us.

This baby is God. Growing inside Marys womb, is Jesus. Fully God, fully man. God the son has taken up into union with himself humanity. In the person of Jesus Christ God has a body. The man Jesus Christ is God. This baby is God.

### **So don't be afraid to commit to Jesus wholeheartedly**

After this revelation Joseph wakes up and has a change of heart. Jesus has broken in and disrupted his respectable life. Knowing who Jesus is and his mission has transformed Joseph, getting involved with Gods plan.

We don't need to be afraid. Jesus Christ walked the earth; God with us, he came to rescue his people from their biggest need, the deep down the root of all their problems. He is God with us, as we go out he is with us. .