

Fear Not

Lesson Three • Matthew 1:18-25

Fear Not, Joseph

The Cost of Following Jesus

We learn from Joseph that following Jesus is often COSTLY,
but always worth it.

Now the birth of Jesus Christ was as follows... Matthew 1:18

Fear Not, Joseph

1. Joseph's Day of DISTRESS: "I Love Her, But That's Not My Baby!"

Now the birth of Jesus Christ was as follows: After His mother Mary was betrothed to Joseph, before they came together, she was found with child of the Holy Spirit. Then Joseph her husband, being a just man, and not wanting to make her a public example, was minded to put her away secretly. Matthew 1:18-19

Joseph's Fear

Joseph intended to DIVORCE Mary privately instead of marry her publicly.

2. Joseph's Night of DISCOVERY: "Fear Not, This Is God's Plan!"

But while he thought about these things, behold an angel of the Lord appeared to him in a dream, saying, "Joseph, son of David, do not be afraid to take to you Mary your wife, for that which is conceived in her is of the Holy Spirit. And she will bring forth a Son, and you shall call His name JESUS, for He will save His people from their sins." Matthew 1:20-21

God's Plan for Mary & Joseph

God chose Mary to be the VIRGIN mother and Joseph to be the ADOPTIVE father of His Son Jesus Christ.

3. Joseph's Morning of DECISION: "Okay Lord, I Will Trust and Obey!"

Then Joseph, being aroused from sleep, did as the angel of the Lord commanded him and took to him his wife, and did not know her till she had brought forth her firstborn Son. And he called His name JESUS. Matthew 1:24-25

Joseph's Faith

- Joseph took Mary as his WIFE.
- Joseph waited till Mary gave BIRTH to consummate their marriage.
- Joseph named Mary's firstborn Son JESUS.

What Following Jesus Looks Like

Following Jesus is not a matter of convenience but OBEDIENCE.

The Strength to Follow Jesus

Now all this was done that it might be fulfilled which was spoken by the Lord through the prophet, saying: "Behold, the virgin shall be with child, and bear a Son, and they shall call His name Immanuel," which is translated, "God with us." Matthew 1:22-23

- ❖ God's PROMISE is fulfilled in Jesus' birth.
- ❖ God's PRESENCE is promised in Immanuel's name.