



Walking with God: Mary & Joseph – December 2022

We can appreciate God's miraculous working in both Joseph and Mary. Both are wonderful models of faith, obedience, and most of all, courage. Although God's actions were beyond their comprehension, and although they may have faced misunderstanding and questioning looks from those around them, Mary and Joseph willingly followed God's guidance. How willing are we to do what God wants, no matter what? Can we follow God's guidance without question?

Read Matthew 1:18-24, Proverbs 16:9

1. After a message from an angel, Joseph decided to enter into marriage with a pregnant Mary. What would have been the repercussions in that culture and how what it affected them both? Why would it have been courageous to enter into marriage in that culture?
2. Are you discovering pushback following God's path in a culture that is increasingly becoming more hostile to all matters of faith?
3. It says in verse 21: [Jesus] "will save His people from their sins." The reason for Jesus' birth was to rescue the world from sin and certain spiritual death. Have you had courage to repent of your sins and to follow Christ? How has it changed you?

4. How do you understand this quote: "The gospel is this: We are more sinful & flawed in ourselves than we ever dared believe, yet at the very same time we are more loved & accepted in Jesus Christ than we ever dared hope."

5. Mary and Joseph had the courage to submit to God's will. Has God asked you to do or not do things that have been difficult? How so?

