

Sermon-Based Discussion Guide

Date 5/14/23 Bryce Taylor

Watch the sermon at manheimbic.org/sermon.



BIBLE PASSAGE - Matthew 1:18-25

18 Now the birth of Jesus Christ took place in this way. When his mother Mary had been betrothed to Joseph, before they came together she was found to be with child from the Holy Spirit. **19** And her husband Joseph, being a just man and unwilling to put her to shame, resolved to divorce her quietly. **20** But as he considered these things, behold, an angel of the Lord appeared to him in a dream, saying, "Joseph, son of David, do not fear to take Mary as your wife, for that which is conceived in her is from the Holy Spirit. **21** She will bear a son, and you shall call his name Jesus, for he will save his people from their sins." **22** All this took place to fulfill what the Lord had spoken by the prophet:

23 "Behold, the virgin shall conceive and bear a son,
and they shall call his name Immanuel"

(which means, God with us). **24** When Joseph woke from sleep, he did as the angel of the Lord commanded him: he took his wife, **25** but knew her not until she had given birth to a son. And he called his name Jesus.

Other Passages: Isaiah 43; Isaiah 9:6-7; Deuteronomy 31:6; Ephesians 1:5; Romans 8:12-17

Connect:

Get to know each other. Connect, warm up to each other, and take time to fellowship.

Care:

Carry each other's burdens. Share life's challenges and practice Soul Care. Pray together.

Challenge:

Dive into God's Word. Use these discussion questions. Learn from each other's insight.

1. Take a moment to read together Matthew 1:18-25. There were generations who lived out humble obedience in hopeful wait for the Messiah. What are ways you are living out that same humble obedience, that can invite the blessing of God in your life?
2. How might your upcoming week change if you grasped the invitation you have to trust and follow Jesus truly?
3. Bryce talked about the grace seen in the lineage of Jesus, and how amazing it was Joseph adopted Jesus as his own. Thinking of your small group, what are ways you've seen a sense of spiritual family grow this past year in your relationships together? Take some time to reflect and share how you've grown together seeing the faithfulness of God.
4. What are some aspects of the lineage of Jesus that surprised you? What about the lineage needs further clarification for you as you trust the authority of the Kingship of Jesus?
5. Take a moment to reflect and thank God for the ways his grace has brought blessing into your life, as well as areas in your life you need to invite the grace of God to flourish. Pray with each other over those areas

Clarify:

Does anyone need clarity on something? Are there any big God questions you are wrestling with?

Celebrate:

Celebrate life's successes and God's provision. Worship God's presence. Time to brag about God.

KEY TAKEAWAYS