



Series: Advent Text: Matthew 1:18-25

Family Drama

How to Stay Hopeful in Struggling Relationships

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1. Remember There's Always More Going On

vv. 18-21





Grow Group Discussion Questions

A grow group is 8-16 people who get together weekly to study God's word and the previous Sunday's message. There is a time of discussion, support, encouragement, and learning how the message applies to daily life. **PCC uses the ESV** (English Standard Version).

HOW DO I JOIN A GROUP?

To learn more or join a group, visit pacificcoastchurch.org/gg/ or sign up at the patio Info Kiosk.

Point #1

- a) Read Matthew 1:18-21. Why would Joseph have been clueless regarding Mary's pregnancy? (c.f., Luke 2:28-35)
- b) In what way would this have created major family drama for Joseph? How did the angel highlight Point #1?
- c) How can you fall into the overanalyzing trap? Why will this rob you of hope? How does Point #1 help you?

Point #2

- a) Read Matthew 1:22-25. What did the angel tell Joseph to do? What did Joseph ultimately do?
- b) How would this have been hard? What does it highlight about Point #2? How can this be a challenge for you?
- c) What are some steps you can take to apply Point #2 in your struggling relationships? (i.e., pray, be kind, etc.)

Daily Devotions

These are provided for mid-week personal spiritual growth. Prayerfully writing out your answers will help you experience real life transformation as you dig deeper into the spiritual truths of God's word and today's message. A downloadable PDF of this document is also available each week at **pacificcoastchurch.org/sermons**.

MONDAY // Read Matthew 1:18-21

- Why would the birth of Christ have been a lonely and depressing time for Joseph? Be specific.
- How would this have ruined any marriage celebration and created family drama? Be specific.
- Knowing God was doing a work in the family drama, how does this provide caution to you this Christmas?

TUESDAY // Read Matthew 1:18-21, 28:20, Genesis 28:15, Psalm 23:1-4, Hebrews 13:6

- Why did the angel appear to Joseph? Why is this important to remember during struggling relationships?
- What can happen when this truth is forgotten? How can this same thing happen to you? Give an example.
- How are you anticipating family drama this Christmas season? How does God's presence encourage you?

WEDNESDAY // Read Matthew 1:18-22, Romans 8:28-30, Ephesians 3:20-21, Phil. 4:12-13, Hebrews 11:1

- In what way is the Christmas story a battle of fear and faith? Why will fear always challenge faith?
- What does this reveal about how Christians process struggle? How does this relate to over analyzing?
- How has God been faithful to you? How does this challenge your current relationship struggles?

THURSDAY // Read Matthew 1:21-23, Isaiah 7:14, John 1:1-4, 14, Galatians 4:4-6, Titus 3:4-6

- Why do you think the angel quoted Isaiah 7:14 to Joseph? What could have happened if he didn't?
- What does this imply about God's will and emotional struggles? How is this the Christmas story?
- In what way is this reminder helpful to you? Be specific. How will you keep this in mind this Christmas?

FRIDAY // Read Matthew 1:24-25, Psalm 19:7-8, 23:4, Matthew 5:44, Romans 12:18, 1 Thess. 5:15

- How did the angel provide stability and hope for Joseph? How can God's word provide you the same hope?
- How often do you look to God's word for your struggling relationships? What does this imply about hope?
- What are some practical steps of obedience you can take with those you struggle with this Christmas season?

SATURDAY // Read Matthew 1:21-25, John 15:10-11, 2 Timothy 3:16-17, 2 Peter 1:3-10

- What did the Angel Gabriel tell Joseph to "do"? What did Joseph "do"? How was this growth for Joseph?
- Explain the difference between knowing God's truth and applying God's truth. Why is this important?
- How is God leading you to take action this Christmas regarding your current family drama? Be specific.

MEDITATION VERSE: ²³"Behold, the virgin shall conceive and bear a son, and they shall call his name Immanuel" (which means, God with us). ²⁴When Joseph woke from sleep, he did as the angel of the Lord commanded him: he took his wife.

Matthew 1:23-24