



Talk it Over

PASTOR LYLE – ADVENT 2024 - 1 – 12/7-8/24

KEY SCRIPTURE

Matthew 1:18–21 (NLT)

18 This is how Jesus the Messiah was born. His mother, Mary, was engaged to be married to Joseph. But before the marriage took place, while she was still a virgin, she became pregnant through the power of the Holy Spirit.

19 Joseph, to whom she was engaged, was a righteous man and did not want to disgrace her publicly, so he decided to break the engagement quietly.

20 As he considered this, an angel of the Lord appeared to him in a dream. "Joseph, son of David," the angel said, "do not be afraid to take Mary as your wife. For the child within her was conceived by the Holy Spirit.

James 1:19–22 (NLT)

19 Understand this, my dear brothers and sisters: You must all be quick to listen, slow to speak, and slow to get angry.

20 Human anger does not produce the righteousness God desires.

21 So get rid of all the filth and evil in your lives, and humbly accept the word God has planted in your hearts, for it has the power to save your souls.

22 But don't just listen to God's word. You must do what it says. Otherwise, you are only fooling yourselves.

START TALKING

In Pastor Lyle's message he revealed that at four he wanted to be "Snake Man". **What were some of your dreams as a young child, or even funny aspirations of a child or sibling?**

START DISCUSSING

Read Matthew 1:18

A YOUNG COUPLE WITH DREAMS

As we consider the Christmas narrative, it is easy to overlook that Joseph and Mary were a typical couple living in Roman occupied Israel two thousand years ago.

What would have been their dreams for their future?

Discuss the typical dreams of a young couple dashed by what we see in the Scriptural account:

- Timing of the pregnancy (for Mary and Joseph)
- Go to Bethlehem
- Name him "Jesus"
- Hurry to Egypt

Read John 6:42 and discuss the public's opinion of Joseph and Mary thirty years later.

A RIGHTEOUS MAN

Read Matthew 1:19

Remember this is BEFORE the angel revealed the truth to Joseph.

Discuss that scripture first says Joseph was a righteous man and then describes how a righteous person behaves in the face of the ultimate betrayal.

What does this example teach us?

THE TRUTH REVEALED

Read Matthew 1:20

What difference did the angel's revelation make and why?

THE SCRIPTURE IS TRUTH REVEALED

Read James 1:19-22

Pastor Lyle stated that the Bible (the Word of God) is just as sure for us as the angel's revelation was to Joseph

Discuss the following statements:

My obedience is sure even though my future is unsure

Life is not made up by the dreams that you have, but by the decisions that you make.

RESPONDING TO THE WORD

In your life right now, are there decisions you need to make, actions to take as steps of obedience?

