

GOD WITH...

A series of Christmas Sermons by
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GOD WITH JOSEPH!

Matthew 1:18-25

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All Scriptures are printed verbatim with translations noted. • Pastor Joe's email is Joe@SouthReno.com

A. Joseph's Story

1. His Dilemma

Matthew 1:18–19, TLB -¹⁸ *These are the facts concerning the birth of Jesus Christ: His mother, Mary, was engaged to be married to Joseph. But while she was still a virgin she became pregnant by the Holy Spirit.* ¹⁹ *Then Joseph, her fiancée, being a man of stern principle, decided to break the engagement but to do it quietly, as he didn't want to publicly disgrace her.*

2. His Dream

Matthew 1:20–23, TLB -²⁰ *As he lay awake considering this, he fell into a dream, and saw an angel standing beside him. "Joseph, son of David," the angel said, "don't hesitate to take Mary as your wife! For the child within her has been conceived by the Holy Spirit.* ²¹ *And she will have a Son, and you shall name him Jesus (meaning 'Savior'), for he will save his people from their sins.* ²² *This will fulfill God's message through his*

prophets— ²³ *'LISTEN! THE VIRGIN SHALL CONCEIVE A CHILD! SHE SHALL GIVE BIRTH TO A SON, AND HE SHALL BE CALLED "EMMANUEL" (meaning "God is with us").'*

- The truth of the child is now revealed.
- The title of the child is now revealed.
- The task of Joseph is not revealed.

3. His Decision

Matthew 1:24–25, TLB -²⁴ *When Joseph awoke, he did as the angel commanded and brought Mary home to be his wife,* ²⁵ *but she remained a virgin until her Son was born; and Joseph named him "Jesus."*

B. Word Study

²⁵ *...she will have a Son, and you shall name Him Jesus (meaning 'Savior'), for he will save His people from their sins.* *

ENGLISH	GREEK	TRANSLATION	SCRIPTURE REF.
Transgression	παραβασις "para-ba-sis"	"To break the law"	Rom. 2:23
Iniquity	ανομία "a-nom-ia"	"Violation via ignorance of the law"	1 Jn. 3:4
(Personal) Error	πλανη "planē"	"A departure from righteousness"	James 5:20
Trespass	παραπτομα "para-toe-ma"	"To step in the wrong way/place"	Eph. 2:1
Unbelief	απιστια "a-pis-tia"	"Lack of Faith"	Rom. 11:20
*Sin	ἁμαρτια "ha-mar-tia"	"You're guilty" or "Missing the Mark"	Rom. 3:23

C. Truths from Joseph's Life

1. God was with Joseph as He is with all people of faith.
2. Joseph was devout, obedient, and available—that's what we should be.
3. Following Jesus may bring you shame in the eye's of the world.
4. God may very well replace "our dreams" with "His dreams."
5. Always do what God tells you to do—even if it doesn't make sense.
6. Following Christ will not always be easy.
7. Jesus, our Savior, came to this earth to save us from our sins.