



ADVENT SERMON SERIES
VISION

“God Sees Something In You”

1. READ

Scripture: Matthew 1: 18-24 New International Version (NIV)

¹⁸This is how the birth of Jesus the Messiah came about: His mother Mary was pledged to be married to Joseph, but before they came together, she was found to be pregnant through the Holy Spirit. ¹⁹Because Joseph her husband was a righteous man and did not want to expose her to public disgrace, he had in mind to divorce her quietly.

²⁰But after he had considered this, an angel of the Lord appeared to him in a dream and said, “Joseph son of David, do not be afraid to take Mary home as your wife, because what is conceived in her is from the Holy Spirit. ²¹She will give birth to a son, and you are to give him the name Jesus, because he will save his people from their sins.”

²²All this took place to fulfill what the Lord had said through the prophet: ²³“The virgin will conceive and give birth to a son, and they will call him Immanuel” (which means “God with us”).

²⁴When Joseph woke up, he did what the angel of the Lord had commanded him and took Mary home as his wife. ²⁵But he had no union with her until she gave birth to a son. And he gave him the name Jesus.

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Suggested Chapters to Study This Week: Jeremiah 1:9, 1 Samuel 16, 2 Kings 4 and Matthew 1

REFLECT



[\[Click the image\]](#)

Pastor Watley is continuing his series during the season of Advent and preaching from the narrative on the birth of Jesus in the Gospel of Matthew. This week Pastor Watley's title is "God Sees Something in You". The Pastor begins the sermon by sharing with us, the story when he and Lady Shawna began to look for a dog to add to their family. The process wasn't simple but involved several steps. Pastor shares that the breeder's process and concern for the dog owners made him think about the process that God went through when selecting the parents of Jesus. God was about to entrust the spotless and sinless only Son into the care of these two people, Mary and Joseph. Pastor asks the question what did God see in them for Him to trust them?



Pastor says that the Lord saw something in them that they didn't see in themselves. There is a list of people in the Bible where God saw something in them that the person themselves did not see. Below is the pastor's list:

- Judges 6, where Gideon was hiding.
- Jeremiah 1, where Jeremiah needed to use his mouth on behalf of the Lord.
- 1 Samuel chapter 16, where Samuel wanted to pick the other sons of Jesse but the Lord directed him toward David.
- 2 Kings chapter 4, the Shunammite woman and the son the Lord promised her.

Throughout the bible, God saw something in these people and many others that they did not see in themselves. Pastor shares that what God saw were these attributes:

- Mary and Joseph had Character and Character in the midst of crisis. They both could have made other decisions but they decided to trust the Lord.
- Mary and Joseph had Faith. Mary had faith in God and Joseph had faith in both God and Mary, because what he had to believe was unbelievable, Pastor Watley points out to us.
- Mary and Joseph had obedience to follow through with all that it meant to be the parents to the Son of God, while only they knew the real truth.

What God is doing in our lives might not make sense to us, but we have to trust that God sees us now and sees what we will be.





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1. RESPOND

Introspective Questions

- ï How would you have handled the responsibility of caring for Jesus?
- ï Is there anything you think they could have done to prepare for a life of caring for Jesus?

Discussion Questions

- ï What do you think the conversations between Mary and Joseph were like after this day?



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