

THE PERFECT GIFTS FOR YOUR FAMILY

Home for the Holidays: Part 3

December 11, 2016

Pastor Brian

Matthew 1:18–24 (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, her fiancé, was a good 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. ²¹ And she will have a son, and you are to name him Jesus, for he will save his people from their sins.” ²² All of this occurred to fulfill the Lord’s message through his prophet: ²³ “Look! The virgin will conceive a child! She will give birth to a son, and they will call him Immanuel, which means ‘God is with us.’” ²⁴ When Joseph woke up, he did as the angel of the Lord commanded and took Mary as his wife.

WHAT MY FAMILY MEMBERS NEED MOST

1. CONSIDERATION.

“Joseph, her fiancé, was a good man and did not want to disgrace her publicly, so he decided to break the engagement quietly.” (Matthew 1:19, NLT)

“In trouble like this I need loyal friends— whether I’ve forsaken God or not.” (Job 6:14, GNB)

“He comforts us in all our troubles so that we can comfort others. When they are troubled, we will be able to give them the same comfort God has given us.” (2 Corinthians 1:4, NLT)

Practical: Respond with GRACE.

2. COOPERATION.

“Don’t look out only for your own interests, but take an interest in others, too.” (Philippians 2:4, NLT)

“If you think you are too important to help someone, you are only fooling yourself. You are not that important.” (Galatians 6:3, NLT)

“Each one of us needs to look after the good of the people around us, asking ourselves, “How can I help?”” (Romans 15:2, The Message)

Practical: LEND A HELPING HAND.

3. VALIDATION.

"Jesus was about thirty years old when he began his public ministry. Jesus was known as the son of Joseph..." (Luke 3:23, NLT)

"Just as our bodies have many parts and each part has a special function, so it is with Christ's body. We are many parts of one body, and we all belong to each other." (Romans 12:4-5, NLT)

"Accept other believers who are weak in faith, and don't argue with them about what they think is right or wrong." (Romans 14:1, NLT)

Practical: EMBRACE THE EGR

Families are like fudge...it's better with nuts!

4. APPRECIATION.

"Every time I think of you, I give thanks to my God." (Philippians 1:3, NLT)

"We always pray for you, and we give thanks to God, the Father of our Lord Jesus Christ." (Colossians 1:3, NLT)

"So encourage each other and build each other up..." (1 Thessalonians 5:11, NLT)

Practical: Stress their STRENGTHS.

5. AFFIRMATION.

"We who are strong ought to bear with the failings of the weak..." (Romans 15:1, NIV84)

"Your words have supported those who were falling; you encouraged those with shaky knees." (Job 4:4, NLT)

"So we keep on praying for you, asking our God to enable you to live a life worthy of his call." (2 Thessalonians 1:11a, NLT)

"Love never gives up, never loses faith, is always hopeful, and endures through every circumstance." (1 Corinthians 13:7, NLT)

Practical: SUPPORT THE STRUGGLING.

Ohana means family and family means no one gets left behind or forgotten.

ACTION:

INVITE to Christmas Candlelight Services

12/21-23 @ 7pm

12/24 @ 3pm & 5pm