

WHEN YOUR PLANS GO OUT THE WINDOW

CHRISTMAS IS STILL ON

Part 2

DEC 6, 2020 | Pastor Gary



“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. 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. 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. And she will have a son, and you are to name him Jesus, for he will save his people from their sins.”” (Matthew 1:18–21, NLT)

“At that time the Roman emperor, Augustus, decreed that a census should be taken throughout the Roman Empire. (This was the first census taken when Quirinius was governor of Syria.) All returned to their own ancestral towns to register for this census. And because Joseph was a descendant of King David, he had to go to Bethlehem in Judea, David’s ancient home. He traveled there from the village of Nazareth in Galilee. He took with him Mary, to whom he was engaged, who was now expecting a child. And while they were there, the time came for her baby to be born. She gave birth to her firstborn son. She wrapped him snugly in strips of cloth and laid him in a manger, because there was no lodging available for them.” (Luke 2:1–7, NLT)

WHEN THINGS JUST WON'T GO AS I HAVE PLANNED

1. I NEED TO BREATHE.

“He came to a lone broom bush and collapsed in its shade, wanting in the worst way to be done with it all—to just die: “Enough of this, God! Take my life—I’m ready to join my ancestors in the grave!” Exhausted, he fell asleep under the lone broom bush. Suddenly an angel shook him awake and said, “Get up and eat!”” (1 Kings 19:4–5, The Message)

“Yet I reserve seven thousand in Israel—all whose knees have not bowed down to Baal and all whose mouths have not kissed him.”” (1 Kings 19:18, NIV84)

Realize that it's not as bad as it seems.

2. I NEED TO PRAY.

“So humble yourselves under the mighty power of God, and at the right time he will lift you up in honor. Give all your worries and cares to God, for he cares about you.” (1 Peter 5:6–7, NLT)

“Come to me and I will give you rest—all of you who work so hard beneath a heavy yoke. Wear my yoke—for it fits perfectly—and let me teach you; for I am gentle and humble, and you shall find rest for your souls; for I give you only light burdens.” (Matthew 11:28–30, The Living Bible)

Realize that God is with you.

3. I NEED TO EVALUATE.

“For I can do everything through Christ, who gives me strength.” (Philippians 4:13, NLT)

“And we know that God causes everything to work together for the good of those who love God and are called according to his purpose for them.” (Romans 8:28, NLT)

Realize that with God's help, anything is possible.

4. I NEED TO CONTROL WHAT I CAN CONTROL AND LET THE REST GO.

“For we are God's masterpiece. He has created us anew in Christ Jesus, so we can do the good things he planned for us long ago.” (Ephesians 2:10, NLT)

“for through him God created everything in the heavenly realms and on earth. He made the things we can see and the things we can't see— such as thrones, kingdoms, rulers, and authorities in the unseen world. Everything was created through him and for him. He existed before anything else, and he holds all creation together.” (Colossians 1:16–17, NLT)

Realize that God has a bigger plan than I can imagine

5. I NEED TO TRUST.

“Now faith is being sure of what we hope for and certain of what we do not see.” (Hebrews 11:1, NIV84)

Realize that this is how I grow in my faith.

ACTION STEP:

WHO NEEDS H.O.P.E. CARD