The Journey of Joseph - Week 2

Men's Reality Check

Many men quietly struggle with...

- Feeling that worth = income + provision
- Depression, anxiety, fear of the future
- Feeling like a failure
- Bottling up their struggles
- Wondering if they are leading their family spiritually

Truth: Most men live on the edge of feeling like a failure but rarely say it. They hide it behind humor, anger, or distraction.

Our Biblical Calling

1 Timothy 3:4-5 - A man must manage his household well to lead in God's church.

Ephesians 5:23-25 - Husbands are called to lead and love as Christ loved the Church.

Key Point: We are called to lead our families and our church—no excuses. Our struggles do not cancel our calling.

A Hard Question: Why are women overwhelmingly running the ministries of the church?

Ministry volunteer numbers show the imbalance—women serving far more than men across nearly every area. Challenge: If God has called men to lead, why is the church a low priority?

Joseph's Story (Matthew 1)

Joseph believed Mary was unfaithful—but he still:

- Remained faithful to the law
- Chose grace over revenge
- Planned to protect her by divorcing quietly

Then God spoke:

God's Instructions to Joseph

- 1. Marry Mary
- 2. Name the boy Jesus

Joseph's Response (Matthew 1:24–25) - Joseph immediately obeyed. No delay. No debate. No excuses.

Joseph's Example to Men

Joseph shows us quiet masculinity—not loud, not flashy, not violent.

He models:

- 1. Faith. He trusted God even when life didn't match his plans.
- 2. Obedience. When God spoke, he acted immediately.
- 3. Sacrifice. He gave up comfort, reputation, plans, and expectations to follow God and protect his family.

Joseph's Ongoing Sacrifice (Luke 2)

- Traveled 60–90 miles with a pregnant wife
- Registered Mary as his wife
- Found shelter when there was none
- Treated Mary as his wife and Jesus as his son—fully and publicly
- Led his family with humility and responsibility

Joseph leads the donkey, Mary behind him—safe, protected, cared for. Joseph leads with:

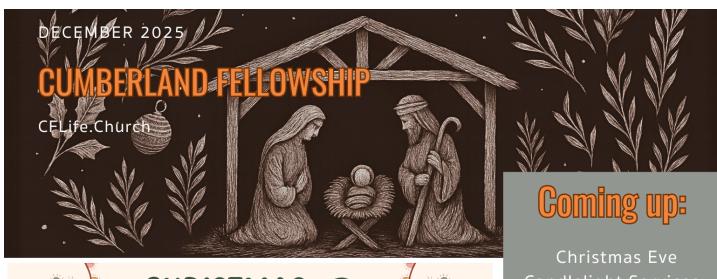
- Gentleness
- Strength
- Direction
- Sacrifice

Application for Men Today

Most men will never go to war or fight an enemy physically—but every man will likely:

- Have a wife to lead and love
- Have children to protect
- Be called by God to step out in faith

Your calling: Faith. Obedience. Sacrifice.





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