

## 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.**

DECEMBER 2025

# CUMBERLAND FELLOWSHIP

CFLife.Church

## CHRISTMAS @ CF STOREHOUSE

Help make Christmas special by  
providing a meal for those in need!

Sign up to bring a Food Item:



Saturday, December 20th

Food Items needed by 10:00 AM

Meals served starting at 11:00 AM

## RECOVERING CROSSVILLE

Stop by the Cafe- grab a  
drink support recovery!



CF Merchandise available online. Check it out!



## Coming up:

Christmas Eve  
Candlelight Services:

10am

12pm

2pm

4pm

## Sign up on the CFLife App

- To Serve
- Submit prayer request
- Join a small group

## TAKE A CLASS

- New Believer's Class
- Next Steps Class
- My Story Training



LOVE GROW GO