

The Journey of Joseph - Week 3

Matthew 2:13–15

An angel warns Joseph in a dream to take Mary and Jesus and flee to Egypt because Herod intends to kill the child. Joseph obeys immediately.

Big Idea: God often calls us to obey without giving us the full picture.

Joseph's Interrupted Life

In a short span of time, Joseph's ordinary life is completely disrupted. He goes from planning a wedding and building a future in Nazareth to raising the Son of God.

Mary's pregnancy makes no sense—until God confirms the truth in a dream. Joseph chooses obedience even when clarity is limited.

Obedience Without Understanding

Joseph had no precedent for angelic encounters. Nothing about this situation was normal or comfortable.

Yet Joseph obeys repeatedly:

- He marries Mary
- He travels to Bethlehem
- He raises Jesus
- He flees to Egypt in the middle of the night

Joseph's story shows that obedience often comes before understanding.

God's Timing and Plan

Scripture gives clues—but not exact dates—about Jesus' early life. Based on historical and biblical evidence, Jesus was likely one to two years old when the wise men arrived, placing His birth around 6–5 B.C.

God's plan unfolds with precision, even when the timing feels unclear to us.

Fulfilled Prophecy

Matthew points to Hosea 11:1: "Out of Egypt I called my son." - Israel, God's first "son," failed through rebellion. Jesus, the true Son, succeeds through perfect obedience—fulfilling God's plan of salvation.

A Lifetime of Yes

Joseph didn't just say yes once—he built a life marked by repeated obedience.

Each act of obedience prepared him for the next, forming a pattern of trust in God.

Godly Leadership Requires Sacrifice

Joseph models biblical leadership:

- He protects his family
- He sacrifices personal plans
- He puts God's purposes first

John 3:30 — "He must increase, but I must decrease."

Ephesians 5:25 — Husbands are called to love sacrificially, as Christ loved the church.

True leadership is not about recognition but faithfulness.

Quiet Obedience, Lasting Impact

Joseph lived without applause, yet his obedience shaped generations.

Obedience matters more than performance.

Faithful obedience—especially when it doesn't make sense—leaves a lasting legacy.

DECEMBER 2025

CUMBERLAND FELLOWSHIP

CFLife.Church

RECOVERING CROSSVILLE

Stop by the Cafe- grab a
drink support recovery!



Coming up:

Christmas Eve
Candlelight Services:

10am, 12pm

2pm & 4pm

Guyana Dental
Mission trip Info
1/12 @ 6pm

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



Merry Christmas & A Happy New Year!



from the CF Staff and our families

LOVE GROW GO