



Bible study for the week starting December 8, 2019  
Behold! Do not fear! (Joseph)

### SHARE

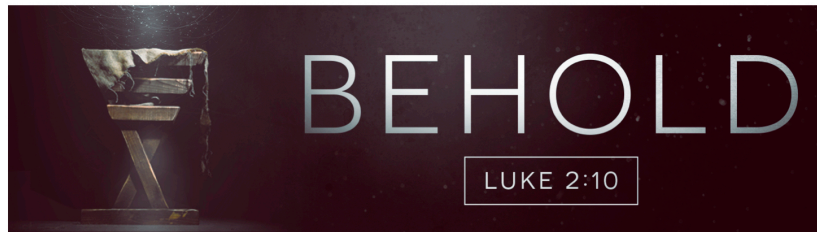
1. So many times in the Bible, the angels are fear-inducing, and the first thing they have to say is, “Do not fear.” In Joseph’s instance, it wasn’t the angels of whom he was afraid. Joseph was afraid to face the hard, right thing – taking Mary as his wife. Spend a few minutes sharing what fears drive you (or hold you back).

### READ

2. Read Isaiah 11:1-10. This is a prophetic passage about the coming Messiah. What do you hear in these promises that is something to look forward to?
3. Read Romans 1:1-7. This passage talks about the gospel as being “promised beforehand.” Then in verse 5, it talks about bringing “about the obedience of faith for the sake of his name among all the nations.” So much of Joseph’s story is about obedience. What do you think this phrase about “obedience of faith” means?
4. Read Matthew 1:18-25. This is the narrative of Joseph’s interaction with the angel. The Bible defines Joseph as a “just” man, similar to how the Old Testament describes Abraham and Job and others as a “righteous” man. Obviously, this doesn’t mean they’re perfect. What *does* it mean? Can it also be true of you???

### PRAY FOR AND WITH ONE ANOTHER!

5. The recurring theme of this message was that even though it might be costly to be obedient to God, it is also a tremendous blessing. Pray for one another’s “hard stuff,” that God would show Himself and His purposes along the way.



## Behold! Do not fear!

Matthew 1:18-25

December 8, 2019 – Pastor Eric Van Scharrel

---

“Behold, an angel of the Lord appeared to him in a dream, saying, Joseph, son of David, **DO NOT FEAR** to take Mary as your wife, for that which is conceived in her is from the Holy Spirit.”

-Matthew 1:20

The **DIFFICULT** things God has for you today are preparing you for the **BLESSINGS** God has for you tomorrow.

God calls us to the **RIGHT** thing, not the **EASY** thing.

God involved Joseph in **MEANINGFUL** kingdom work.

Every one of us is presented with the opportunity to do the right but **COSTLY** thing.

We don't **ALWAYS** do the right thing, but **JESUS** always did the right thing for us.

Joseph **OBEYED** God.