

inSIGNIFICANT
Joseph's Forgiveness
Matthew 1:18-25

- *An 18 year-old young man desiring to become an artist moved to Vienna hoping to have a career doing what he loved most...*
- *His father had refused to allow him to follow his artist dreams and instead wanted him to have a career as a civil servant in the government...*
- *However, when his father died, the young man dropped schooling to pursue his dreams in art...*
- *He loved the Renaissance style of art and began his dream to live a life as an artist...*

→ Pic 1 – Painting



At first he couldn't make enough money to pay rent and spent some time in a homeless shelter for men...

But after a while he continued painting and selling enough paintings that he could afford rent...

→ Pic 2 – Painting



This is one of his watercolors...

→ Pic 3 – Painting



→ Pic 4 – Painting

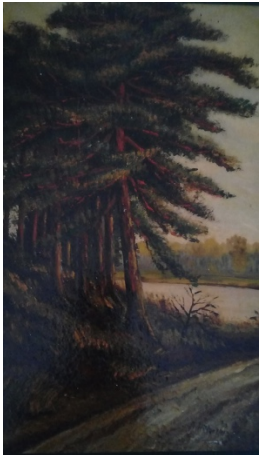
December 12, 2021

Crossgates AM Message

David Jett



→ **Pic 5 – Painting**



→ **Pic 6 – Painting**



→ **Pic 7 – Painting**



→ **Pic 8 – Painting**



Who was this man who set aside his paintbrush for a more successful career in politics?...

→ **Pic 9 – Hitler**



We started a NEW SERIES last week!

I've titled it, "**inSIGNIFICANT**"

The subtitle focuses in on what we are going to attempt to realize...

"Decisions that lead to Destinies"

ONE THING

The decisions we choose lead us to the destinies we reach

***Our DAILY decisions determine our DIRECTIONS,
but our FAITH decisions determine our DESTINIES!***

***Your UNDERSTANDING and USAGE of forgiveness
is either UNLEASHING or UNDOING your faith!***

Last week we looked at Mary and her willingness to follow the Lord even though she didn't understand, but knew what He was asking of her would bring shame upon her from those who didn't understand...

***Today we are going to look at Joseph
Matthew 1:18–25 (ESV) — Now the birth of Jesus Christ took place in this way. When his mother Mary had been betrothed to Joseph, before they came together she was found to be with child from the Holy Spirit. And her husband Joseph, being a just man and unwilling to put her to shame, resolved to divorce her quietly. But as he considered these things, 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. She will bear a son, and you shall call his name Jesus, for he will save his people from their sins." All this took place to fulfill what the Lord had spoken by the prophet: "Behold, the virgin shall conceive and bear a son, and they shall call his name Immanuel" (which means, God with us). When Joseph woke from sleep, he did as the angel of the Lord commanded him: he took his wife, but knew her not until she had given birth to a son. And he called his name Jesus.***

1. You must UNDERSTAND the PRIORITY of forgiveness

Matthew 1:18–19 (ESV) — Now the birth of Jesus Christ took place in this way. When his mother Mary had been betrothed to Joseph, before they came together she was found to be with child from the Holy Spirit. And her

husband Joseph, being a just man and unwilling to put her to shame, resolved to divorce her quietly.

It is important for us to understand the situation circling around the statement...

Matthew 1:18b (ESV) "... Mary had been betrothed to Joseph, before they came together she was found to be with child..."

Let's attempt to piece together a sequence of events...

Elizabeth had become pregnant approximately SIX MONTHS before Gabriel came to Mary...

In the angelic encounter Mary had said her famous words...

Luke 1:38 (ESV) — And Mary said, "Behold, I am the servant of the Lord; let it be to me according to your word." And the angel departed from her.

Next, Scripture tells us of Mary's departure...

Luke 1:39 (ESV) — In those days Mary arose and went with haste into the hill country, to a town in Judah...

From here, Mary departed, leaving her home, friends, and Joseph traveling to the home of Zechariah and Elizabeth... the parents of John the Baptist...

Mary remained there for three months with Elizabeth...

Luke 1:56 (ESV) — And Mary remained with her about three months and returned to her home.

Again, let's reread our statement once again...

Matthew 1:18b (ESV) "... Mary had been betrothed to Joseph, before they came together she was found to be with child..."

The word used here translated, "FOUND" means...

"To learn something previously unknown"

Mary is gone for three months...

Upon her return Joseph finds out she is pregnant!!!

See this in the rawness in which it is told...

Joseph discovers the one he is to marry is pregnant and he knows the child is not his!

She does her best to tell what happened, but Joseph, brokenhearted, embarrassed, ... his manhood questioned ... his religious beliefs trampled ...

What will he do?

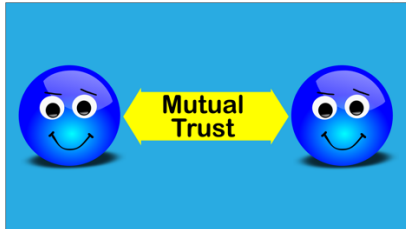
The Scriptures tell us his faith decision in this most devastating moment...

Matthew 1:19 (ESV) — And her husband Joseph, being a just man and unwilling to put her to shame, resolved to divorce her quietly.

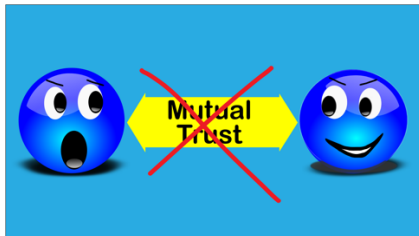
What had Joseph done?

He had forgiven her!!!

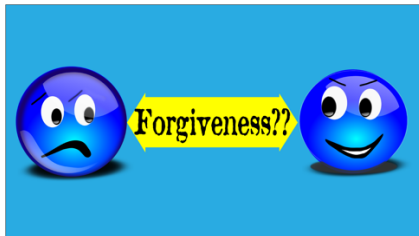
→ Trust – Pic 1



→ **Trust – Pic 2**



→ **Trust – Pic 3**



Forgiveness is a POWERFUL force!

The Scripture is clear about its importance...

Matthew 6:14–15 (ESV) — For if you forgive others their trespasses, your heavenly Father will also forgive you, but if you do not forgive others their trespasses, neither will your Father forgive your trespasses.

But really... Forgiveness???

Your understanding and usage of forgiveness is either unleashing or undoing your faith!

1. You must UNDERSTAND the PRIORITY of forgiveness

2. You must CORRECT your PERCEPTION of forgiveness

Matthew 1:20a (ESV) — But as he considered these things ...

The word translated here, “considered” means...

To process information by giving consideration to various aspects—‘to think about, to consider.’

What does it mean to forgive?

It is extremely important to note that the focus in the meanings of ἀφίημι^f, ἄφεσις^a, and ἀπολύω^e is upon the guilt of the wrongdoer and not upon the wrongdoing itself. The event of wrongdoing is not undone, but the guilt resulting from such an event is pardoned. To forgive, therefore, means essentially to remove the guilt resulting from wrongdoing.

Some languages make a clear distinction between guilt and sin, and terms for forgiveness are therefore related to guilt and not to the wrongdoing. Therefore, ‘to forgive sins’ is literally ‘to forgive guilt.’ Though terms for ‘forgiveness’ are often literally ‘to wipe out,’ ‘to blot out,’ or ‘to do away with,’ it is obviously not possible to blot out or to wipe out an event, but it is possible to remove or obliterate the guilt.

→ **Forgiveness – Pic 1**



→ **Forgiveness – Pic 2**



→ **Forgiveness – Pic 3**



You can walk in right step with God and still not trust your offender!

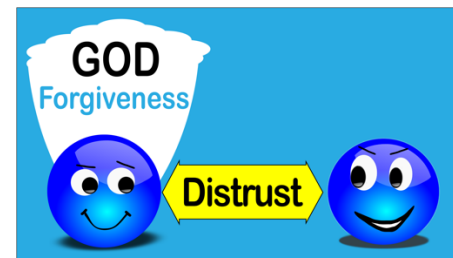
1. You must UNDERSTAND the PRIORITY of forgiveness

2. You must CORRECT your PERCEPTION of forgiveness

3. You must EMBRACE the POWER of forgiveness

Matthew 1:20–25 (ESV) — But as he considered these things, 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. 21 She will bear a son, and you shall call his name Jesus, for he will save his people from their sins.” 22 All this took place to fulfill what the Lord had spoken by the prophet: 23 “Behold, the virgin shall conceive and bear a son, and they shall call his name Immanuel” (which means, God with us). 24 When Joseph woke from sleep, he did as the angel of the Lord commanded him: he took his wife, 25 but knew her not until she had given birth to a son. And he called his name Jesus.

→ **Restored Trust – Pic 1**



→ **Restored Trust – Pic 2**



→ **Restored Trust – Pic 3**



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inSIGNIFICANT!
Joseph's Forgiveness
Matthew 1:18-25

Your _____ and _____ of forgiveness is
either _____ or _____ your faith!

**1. You must _____ the _____ of
forgiveness**

**2. You must _____ your _____ of
forgiveness**

**3. You must _____ the _____ of
forgiveness**