

HOLY MOMENTS—1 WHEN IT'S HARD TO OBEY

- **Life is not measured by time. Life is measured in moments.**
- **You have no idea what God can do through one moment of obedience.**

Title—When It's Hard to Obey

This is how Jesus the Messiah was born. His mother, Mary, was engaged to be married to Joseph. But before the marriage took place, while she was still a virgin, she became pregnant through the power of the Holy Spirit. Matthew 1:18 NLT

- **A carpenter (Matthew 13:55)**
- **A righteous and faithful man (Matthew 1:19)**
- **Descendant of David (Matthew 1:20, Luke 2:4)**
- **Mary's husband (Matthew 1:16)**
- **Jesus' earthly father (Matthew 13:55, Luke 3:23, John 1:45)**

As he considered this, an angel of the Lord appeared to him in a dream. “Joseph, son of David,” the angel said, “do not be afraid to take Mary as your wife. ...” Matthew 1:20 NLT

When Joseph woke up, he did as the angel of the Lord commanded and took Mary as his wife. Matthew 1:24 NLT

- **You don't have to understand completely to obey immediately.**
- **Obedience is our responsibility—the outcome is God's.**

“... For the child within her was conceived by the Holy Spirit. ²¹And she will have a son, and you are to name him Jesus, for he will save his people from their sins.” Matthew 1:20-21 NLT

TALK IT OVER

Read **Matthew 1:24**. We’re called to obey God, even when we don’t fully understand. When does that feel easy, and when does that feel difficult?

Talk about a time when God showed up through the obedience of another person. How did that impact you and your relationship with God?

Is God calling you to take a step of obedience? What would it look like to take that step this week?