



# *my* **Im** *perfect* **Christmas**

## Pt. 1: Dealing With Disappointment

Questions for further study and application:

- Day 1** Take time to read Joseph's story this morning in Matthew 1:18-25. Re-read it a second time, and ask God to give you new truths you haven't seen before in this story. Joseph often gets pushed into the background of the Christmas story. You know he is there, but the focus is on Mary and the baby Jesus. Joseph is no less important though. It was his acts of obedience which placed Mary where she needed to be in order to fulfill the prophecies of Jesus's birth. God has placed you here, at this time, because he has a specific plan for you. Don't let the pressures of the Christmas season stop you from living out God's plan for you this holiday.
- Day 2** You can learn through Joseph's story that disappointment is a part of Christmas. Things don't always go the way you want them to. Joseph had to deal with the disappointment that Mary wasn't who he thought she was. Their life wasn't going to turn out the way he had planned. You have a "Mary" in your life. Someone who has disappointed you and not lived up to your expectations. Don't let the disappointment ruin your holiday. Do as Joseph did and stop and consider the disappointment. Read Romans 8:28. Talk to God about your disappointments. Let Him show you how to handle it.
- Day 3** With every disappointment comes a dilemma. You are faced with the choice of how to handle it. There is always a gut reaction; just like Joseph's initial reaction was to divorce Mary. Instead, Joseph stopped and considered it. Because he did, it gave room for the angel to talk to him. Read James 4:8a. Instead of reacting to your disappointment, pray about it. Take it to God. Give Him room in your life to talk to you. When you do, you will find the way God wants you to handle the disappointment is completely different than the way you do.
- Day 4** After you have faced the disappointment and the dilemma, you have to make a decision. You can decide today whatever disappointment you are facing, you're not going to let it ruin your Christmas. Don't let a disappointing moment create a disappointing season. You have the power to not let that happen. It is your decision how this Christmas will turn out. Read Psalm 18:1-3. You can choose to embrace the disappointment and trust God with it, or you can let it define you. It's your choice.
- Day 5** In Matthew 1:22, you learned all of this happened so God's word could be fulfilled. This is the declaration that tells you all things work to the good for those who believe and trust in the Lord. What disappointment haven't you given to the Lord yet? If Joseph hadn't gone through the disappointment with Mary, he wouldn't have reached his destiny. Embrace the disappointments you experience this Christmas season. Don't let them stop you from reaching the destiny God has in store for you.

## What's New?

Waters Edge Kids Live! is back on December 1, from 6:30 to 8:00 PM, at WEC Yorktown. This is the perfect way for kids in Kindergarten through 5th grade, along with their families, to have a ton of fun and experience the message of Christmas!