



THE Early YEARS

Sermon Discussion Questions - September 19 & 21, 2025

Gospel of Matthew - The Early Years

Matthew 1:18-25

Cornerstone Men

Cornerstone Men equips men to follow Jesus, connect in community, and grow in their faith.

cornerstonechurch.community/men

Cornerstone Women

Cornerstone Women's mission is to help women follow Jesus through growth in community at Cornerstone Church.

cornerstonechurch.community/women

RightNow Media

Cornerstone provides access to RightNow Media, so if your group would like to use their resources for a study, check out the site!

rightnowmedia.org/Account/Invite/cornerstonesi

Meal for Care Night

Each week, a small group provides dinner for attendees of Care Night, held on Wednesday nights. If your group is interested in serving in this way, email Gayle at gdwight@cornerstone.team.

Ice Breaker: *Matthew's account of Jesus's birth leaves out a lot of details—like how Mary and Joseph's families responded.*

- **Q1: What's the most unexpected or awkward thing that's ever happened at a family gathering? How did everyone react?**

Read Matthew 1:18-25 together. In the middle of disrupted plans, God brought the Messiah through Mary and Joseph's obedience.

- **Q2: Have you ever had your plans completely fall apart—but looking back, it turned out to be a turning point in your faith?**

Joseph's obedience came with a personal cost—his reputation, comfort, maybe even relationships.

- **Q3: Can you think of a time when following God cost you something—socially, financially, emotionally, or otherwise?**

In order for Jesus to be a Son of David, Joseph needed to legally adopt Him.

- **Q4: How does it impact your faith to know that the Gospel begins with Jesus being adopted—and ends with us being adopted into God's family?**

Mary and Joseph exhibited profound faithfulness in the middle of chaos and uncertainty.

- **Q5: How does their obedience encourage you in your own season of difficulty or waiting?**
- **Q6: How does the raw, messy nature of Jesus's birth story affect how you think about where God might want to show up in your own life?**

Jesus is the incarnate son of God who came to save us from our sins—not just from hardship, injustice, or pain.

- **Q7: Why is it so important to remember that our deepest need is to be saved from sin—not just from external problems in the world?**

This story invites us into a life of faithful obedience, knowing that God is with us until the end of the age.

- **Q8: What's one small, faithful step of obedience you feel nudged to take this week—even if it's scary or difficult?**

Take a few minutes to encourage each other and spend some time in prayer together!

Upcoming Scripture for Next Week: Matthew 2:1-23