



# FIRST BORN

CHRISTMASTIME AT RCC

**Joseph – Happy to be Third**

**FIRST BORN** 

Though not much is written about Joseph, we do get a picture of a man whose life ought to be emulated.

## Matthew 1:18-25

<sup>18</sup> 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. <sup>19</sup> And her husband Joseph, being a just man and unwilling to put her to shame, resolved to divorce her quietly.

<sup>20</sup> 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. <sup>21</sup> She will bear a son,

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## Matthew 1:18-25

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

**Joseph was faithful to Mary.**

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# Joseph was faithful to Mary.

- He was going to marry Mary.

## Matthew 1:18

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- **He didn't want to humiliate Mary.**

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- **He married Mary.**



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fulfill what the Lord had spoken by the prophet:  
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- He was going to marry Mary.
- He was humiliated by Mary.
- He didn't want to humiliate Mary.
- He married Mary.
- He chose a life extraordinarily different from what he planned.
- **He lived with the perception of marrying an adulteress.**

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**Joseph was faithful to God.**

# Joseph was faithful to God.

- He had a genuine faith.

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- He listened to God.
- **He did what God asked him to do.**

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## Matthew 2:13-15

<sup>13</sup> Now when they had departed, behold, an angel of the Lord appeared to Joseph in a dream and said, “Rise, take the child and his mother, and flee to Egypt, and remain there until I tell you, for Herod is about to search for the child, to destroy him.” <sup>14</sup> And he rose and took the child and his mother by night and departed to Egypt <sup>15</sup> and remained there until the death of Herod. This was to fulfill what the Lord had spoken by the prophet, “Out of Egypt I called my son.”

## Matthew 2:19-23

<sup>19</sup> But when Herod died, behold, an angel of the Lord appeared in a dream to Joseph in Egypt, <sup>20</sup> saying, “Rise, take the child and his mother and go to the land of Israel, for those who sought the child's life are dead.”  
<sup>21</sup> And he rose and took the child and his mother and went to the land of Israel. <sup>22</sup> But when he heard that Archelaus was reigning over Judea in place of his father Herod, he was afraid to go there, and being warned in a dream he withdrew to the district of Galilee. <sup>23</sup> And he went and lived in a city called Nazareth, so that what was spoken by the prophets might be fulfilled, that he would be called a Nazarene.

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- **He was chosen by God to be Jesus' father.**

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- **He was happy to be third.**

# Takeaways:

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# Takeaways:

- Thank God for your earthly father.
- If thinking of your father is primarily painful, thank God for your adoption by your Heavenly Father.
- If a parent, love your kids in ways that point them to Jesus.
- Be happy being third.
- **Thank the Heavenly Father for His love, and pray that He would use you to reveal the meaning of Christmas to someone else.**