




“The Courage of Joseph”

“The Nativity Story”

“One couple. One journey. One Child
... who would change the world ... forever.”


How can we imitate Joseph’s great courage?

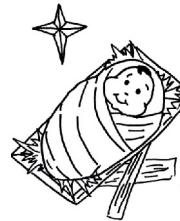
1- I can _____ God even when I _____.

 **Proverbs 3:5** Trust in the LORD with all your heart and lean not on your own understanding. NIV

Engagement or *betrothal* was a time of testing and self-control, a time to refrain from improper contact, a time of waiting, planning and dreaming. In *betrothal* a couple pledged to remain faithful to each other for the rest of their lives.

 **Matthew 1:19** ...Joseph her husband was a righteous man... NIV

 **Luke 1:35** “The Holy Spirit will come upon you, and the power of the Most High will overshadow you. So the Holy One to be born will be called the Son of God.” NIV




 **Matthew 1:18-21**¹⁸ This is how the birth of Jesus Christ came about:

His mother Mary was pledged to be married to Joseph, but before they came together, she was found to be with Child through the Holy Spirit.¹⁹ Because Joseph her husband was a righteous man and did not want to expose her to public disgrace, he had in mind to divorce her quietly.²⁰ But after he had considered this, an angel of the Lord appeared to him in a dream and said, “Joseph son of David, do not be afraid to take Mary home as your wife, because what is conceived in her is from the Holy Spirit.²¹ She will give birth to a Son, and you are to give Him the name Jesus, because He will save His people from their sins.” NIV

'INCARNATION'


The eternal, almighty Son of God became _____.


2- I can _____ God even when it _____.


 **Matthew 1:24-25** When Joseph woke up, he did what the angel of the Lord had commanded him and took Mary home as his wife. But he had no union with her until she gave birth to a Son. And he gave Him the name Jesus. NIV

Sometimes ' _____ *speak louder than* _____.'




 **Ephesians 2:8** It is by God's grace that you have been saved through faith. It is not the result of your own efforts, but God's gift, so that no one can boast about it. TEV

 **Ecclesiastes 7:20** There is not a righteous man on earth who does what is right and never sins. NIV

 **Matthew 28:19-20** Go and make disciples of all nations, baptizing them in the name of the Father and of the Son and of the Holy Spirit, and teaching them to obey everything I have commanded you. NIV

Our **motivation** for obedience is _____ and _____.

 **John 14:15** "If you love Me, you will obey what I command." NIV

Join us at Zion **December 21** at **7pm** for the blockbuster movie:

"The Nativity Story"

Blanks: 1- trust, don't understand, fully human, 2- obey, costs me dearly, actions , words,
love, gratitude