

MESSAGES TO A CARPENTER Matthew 1-2

"...And you shall call His Name Jesus" Matthew 1:18-25

"She will bear a Son; and you shall call His name Jesus, for He will save His people from their sins." Matthew 1:21

- The carpenter: Joseph "tekton"; small town; line of David; no recorded words
- 1 Corinthians 1:26-27 "Brothers and sisters, consider your calling: Not many were wise from a human perspective, not many powerful, not many of noble birth. Instead, God has chosen what is foolish in the world to shame the wise, and God has chosen what is weak in the world to shame the strong."
- The angelic interruption of Joseph's righteous plans (Matthew 1:19-20)
- The beautiful name of Jesus (Matthew 1:21-23)

Have you called on the name of Jesus to save you from your sins?

"Get up!... and flee" Matthew 2:13-15

"Get up! Take the Child and His mother and flee to Egypt, and remain there until I tell you" Matthew 2:13

- Angelic guidance to Egypt (Matthew 2:13; Hosea 11:1)
- Spiritual warfare surrounded the Christ child (Matthew 2:13)
- The holy family became refugees (Matthew 2:14)

If an angel were to show up and ask you to flee from something, what would it be from?

"...Go into the land of Israel" Matthew 2:19-23

" Get up, take the Child and His mother, and go into the land of Israel; for those who sought the Child's life are dead." Matthew 2:20

- The Angel of the Lord instructs Joseph and the family to return to Israel and Nazareth
- Obedience does not come naturally!
- The beautiful gift of obedience "This is love, that we walk according to His commandments" 2 John 1:6

What is God calling you to do in obedience this Christmas season?

DIGGING DEEPER:

Great Quotes:

"Be patient when it gets weird. The angels explained things to Joseph after he'd talked to Mary, not before." - Bob Goff

"Joseph chose the hard but obedient path. He took on the shame of Mary's pregnancy to help father the One who would take on his shame at the cross." - Daniel Darling

Nazarene prophecy?

Matthew 2:23 says, "This was to fulfill what was spoken through the prophets: "He shall be called a Nazarene." The Old Testament prophets are never recorded as saying that the Messiah would be from Nazareth. So why does Matthew write this? One idea is that the term "Nazarene" was a name given to a person from the region of Nazareth, a group of people who were despised by their 1st century contemporaries because they were poor, uneducated and were a mixed population of Jews/Gentiles. In Isaiah 53, the prophet predicts that the Messiah would be despised and rejected by men (Isaiah 53:3). Therefore, Matthew makes the connection between Isaiah 53 and Jesus being rejected and despised because He was from Nazareth (see John 1:46; Acts 24:5).

NEXT STEPS:

SHARE AN INVITATION: Help spread the good news this Christmas about the hope, peace, joy, and love we find in Jesus. Who are you praying for and reaching out to invite to the Sunday services and special events coming up at Calvary? Discover more about what's happening and follow our daily Advent Devotional at **SantaAnaChristmas.com**

SERVE THIS CHRISTMAS: Help create a warm and welcoming presence for our guests by serving as a greeter at our Christmas Eve Candlelight services on December 23 or 24. Contact Robert Carter at rcarter@calvarylife.org for details or visit us at Connection Point in the Lobby today.

SIGN UP FOR A 2020 GO TRIP: Calvary is sending out teams on mission around the world to Ireland, Lesvos, Kenya, and more. Come be a part of the great adventure of furthering the gospel and sharing the love and hope of Jesus in 2020! Explore opportunities and sign up by December 20 at **calvarylife.org/go**

IN RESPONSE:

COMMUNION: Communion is a "meal" for believers in Jesus Christ to help us give thanks and remember His death on the cross for the forgiveness of sins. The matzah bread represents the body of Christ given for us. The cup of juice represents the blood of Christ that was shed to pay the price for our sins. We are called to examine ourselves before taking communion (Read 1 Corinthians 11:23-34). We typically pass communion elements the first Sunday of the month. Most other weeks, communion is available at tables around the room after the sermon.

PRAYER POINTS: These locations at the front right and left of the Worship Center will have people available to pray with you during the time of singing after the sermon and after the service as well. These people are excited to pray with you about anything in your life, including praying to tell Jesus that you believe in Him as God and trust Him for salvation. They will also pray for any health needs, stresses, worries, family members, temptations or anything else.



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