

THE REASON IS LOVE
Season's Reasons – Part 1
December 7, 2025

Joseph of Nazareth may be the most neglected person in the Christmas story.

John 14:15 (NLT) “*If you love Me, obey My commandments.*”

Joseph models a close walk with God!

Matthew 1:16 (NIV) “*...and Jacob the father of Joseph, the husband of Mary, and Mary was the mother of Jesus who is called the Messiah.*”

LESSONS FROM JOSEPH
If You Love God like Joseph...

1. Learn to accept God's will whatever it may be.

Matthew 1:18a (NIV) “*This is how the birth of Jesus the Messiah came about: His mother Mary was pledged to be married to Joseph.*”

Stages of First Century Jewish Marriage
Engagement
Betrothal
Marriage

Matthew 1:18b (NIV) “*But before they came together, she was found to be pregnant through the Holy Spirit.*”

Matthew 1:19 (NIV) “*Because Joseph her husband was faithful to the law, and yet did not want to expose her to public disgrace, he had in mind to divorce her quietly.*”

Isaiah 55:8-9 (NLT) “*My thoughts are nothing like your thoughts,’ says the LORD. ‘And My ways are far beyond anything you could imagine. ⁹ For just as the heavens are higher than the earth, so My ways are higher than your ways and My thoughts higher than your thoughts.’*”

Romans 8:28 (NIV) “*And we know that in all things God works for the good of those who love Him, who have been called according to His purpose.*”

2. Learn to care about other people.

Matthew 1:20-23 (NIV) “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. ²¹She will give birth to a Son, and you are to give Him the name Jesus, because He will save His people from their sins.’ ²²All this took place to fulfill what the Lord had said through the prophet: ²³‘The virgin will conceive and give birth to a Son, and they will call Him Immanuel’ (which means, ‘God with us’).”

Joseph had the important role of caring for the needs of others.

His love for God drove all that he did for those others.

Matthew 1:24-25 (NIV) “When Joseph woke up, he did what the angel of the Lord had commanded him and took Mary home as his wife. ²⁵But he did not consummate their marriage until she gave birth to a son. And he gave Him the name Jesus.”

3. Learn to give whatever you have to give.

John 3:16a (NIV) “For God so loved the world that He gave His one and only Son...”

When God gave His Son... Christmas happened.

When Joseph gave himself... Christmas happened.

Joseph saw Mary as one who was so faithful to God that she was chosen by God to give birth to His Son.

God used Joseph and Mary who were willing to give what they had and who they were for His purposes.

1 Corinthians 2:9 (NCV) “No one has ever seen this, and no one has ever heard about it. No one has ever imagined what God has prepared for those who love Him.”

Characteristics of God’s Plan

- God’s plan is bigger than your plan.**
- God’s plan is harder than your plan.**
- God’s plan offers significance beyond your plan.**

The story of Christmas is the greatest love story of all.

Christmas is divine love visiting our earth, reaching out to each of us, trying to woo us and win us to the love of God.