

IV. Allow God to develop my _____ during the mess

“When Herod died, an angel of the Lord appeared in a dream to Joseph in Egypt. ‘Get up!’ the angel said. ‘Take the child and his mother back to the land of Israel, because those who were trying to kill the child are dead.’” MATTHEW 2:19-20

“But those who hope in the Lord will renew their strength. They will soar on wings like eagles; they will run and not grow weary, they will walk and not be faint.” ISAIAH 40:31

- **By faith, I _____ God’s help**

“For we live by believing and not by seeing.” 2 CORINTHIANS 5:7

- **By faith, I _____ for God’s help**

“I waited patiently for the Lord to help me, and he turned to me and heard my cry.” PSALM 40:1

- **By faith, I _____ God’s help**

“So be truly glad. There is wonderful joy ahead, even though you must endure many trials for a little while.”
1 PETER 1:6

→ **God says, “Walk by _____.”**

“Now we see things imperfectly, like puzzling reflections in a mirror, but then we will see everything with perfect clarity. All that I know now is partial and incomplete, but then I will know everything completely, just as God now knows me completely.” 1 CORINTHIANS 13:12

THE MIRACLES OF CHRISTMAS

“FINDING A MIRACLE IN YOUR MESS – JOSEPH”

DECEMBER 9, 2018

THE STORY OF JOSEPH

MATTHEW 1:18-25, NLT

¹⁸This is how Jesus the Messiah was born. His mother, Mary, was engaged to be married to Joseph. But before the marriage took place, while she was still a virgin, she became pregnant through the power of the Holy Spirit. ¹⁹Joseph, to whom she was engaged, was a righteous man and did not want to disgrace her publicly, so he decided to break the engagement quietly.

²⁰As he considered this, an angel of the Lord appeared to him in a dream. “Joseph, son of David,” the angel said, “do not be afraid to take Mary as your wife. For the child within her was conceived by the Holy Spirit. ²¹And she will have a son, and you are to name him Jesus, for he will save his people from their sins.”

²²All of this occurred to fulfill the Lord’s message through his prophet:

²³“Look! The virgin will conceive a child! She will give birth to a son, and they will call him Immanuel, which means ‘God is with us.’”

²⁴When Joseph woke up, he did as the angel of the Lord commanded and took Mary as his wife. ²⁵But he did not have sexual relations with her until her son was born. And Joseph named him Jesus.

MY MESS: _____

HOW DO I FIND THE MIRACLE IN MY MESS?

I. Admit my _____

“As he considered this, an angel of the Lord appeared to him in a dream. ‘Joseph, son of David,’ the angel said, ‘**do not be afraid** to take Mary as your wife. For the child within her was conceived by the Holy Spirit.’” MATTHEW 1:20

- **God doesn’t want me to fear the _____ of others**

“The Lord is for me, so I will have no fear. What can mere people do to me?” PSALM 118:6

“Our purpose is to please God, not people.”
1 THESSALONIANS 2:4

- **God doesn’t want me to fear _____**

“The Holy Spirit helps us in our weakness... And we know that God causes everything to work together for the good of those who love God and are called according to his purpose for them.” ROMANS 8:26, 28

- **God doesn’t want me to fear the _____**

[Jesus] “Don’t worry about tomorrow, for tomorrow will bring its own worries. Today’s trouble is enough for today.”
MATTHEW 6:34

→ **God says, “_____ when you’re afraid.”**

“And be sure of this: I am with you always, even to the end of the age.” MATTHEW 28:20

II. Trust God even when I _____

“When Joseph woke up, he did as the angel of the Lord commanded and took Mary as his wife.” MATTHEW 1:24

- **Remind myself of God’s _____**

“Now I am deeply discouraged, but I will remember you...”
PSALM 42:6

- **Listen for God’s _____**

“As he considered this, an angel of the Lord appeared to him in a dream.” MATTHEW 1:20

“Never stop praying.” 1 THESSALONIANS 5:17

- _____ **to God’s people**

“Share each other’s burdens.” GALATIANS 6:2

→ **God says, “I am the Lord, _____.”**

“My thoughts are nothing like your thoughts,” says the Lord.
“And my ways are far beyond anything you could imagine.” ISAIAH 55:8

III. Trust God even when it’s _____

“After the wise men were gone, an angel of the Lord appeared to Joseph in a dream. ‘Get up! Flee to Egypt with the child and his mother,’ the angel said. ‘Stay there until I tell you to return, because Herod is going to search for the child to kill him.’ That night Joseph left for Egypt with the child and Mary, his mother, ¹⁵and they stayed there until Herod’s death. This fulfilled what the Lord had spoken through the prophet: “called my Son out of Egypt.” MATTHEW 2:13-15

[Jesus] “And everyone who has given up houses or brothers or sisters or father or mother or children or property, for my sake, will receive a hundred times as much in return and will inherit eternal life.” MATTHEW 19:29

- **Joseph had the _____ to obey God**

“When Joseph woke up, he did as the angel of the Lord commanded and took Mary as his wife.” MATTHEW 1:24

- **Joseph sought to _____ God by the way he lived**

“Joseph... was a righteous man.” MATTHEW 1:19

→ **God says, “I am _____.”**

“Do not be afraid or discouraged, for the Lord will personally go ahead of you. He will be with you; he will neither fail you nor abandon you.” DEUTERONOMY 31:8