



DECEMBER 3, 2023  
THE KING IS BORN  
MATTHEW 1:18-25

## Introduction

1. Joseph's Participation Fulfills Messianic Prophecy
  
  
  
  
  
  
  
  
  
  
2. Joseph as Model of Discipleship.

## Conclusion

### BIG IDEA:

Disciples of Jesus do what God wants, even if it puts us at odds with what other people consider acceptable.

*A disciple of Jesus is someone who is **following** Jesus, is being **changed** by Jesus, and is **committed** to the **mission** of Jesus. (Matthew 4:19)*

**HARBOR OF HOPE**  
CHRISTIAN CHURCH



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## Reflection Questions for Groups or Individuals:

1. What examples can you think of where God's way was unexpected, outside the norm?
2. How do you see Matthew making his case that Jesus is really God's Son, and the continuation of the story of God in the world and in the people of Israel?
3. Has there ever been a time in your life where following God required you to stretch your understanding of God's law? Or to do something brave that other people might not understand?
4. How does the approval of other people impact your obedience of what God wants you to do?
5. We've said that disciple is someone who is **following** Jesus, is being **changed** by Jesus, and is **committed to the mission** of Jesus. Spend some time praying for each other that as you follow Jesus, you surrender to His transformation of you- even when it requires unlearning something old and learning something new about what He wants.

## Discovery Bible Study Method for Groups or Individuals

(for more information on this method of Bible study- see <https://www.dbsguide.org/>)

**1. Talk:** To begin the study, each person answers these questions:

- What are you thankful for?
- What is causing you stress?
- Who needs our help? How can this group help them?

**2. Look Back (session 2+)**

- Retell story from the previous meeting.
- What did you do differently because of this story?
- Who did you tell and what was the reaction?

**3. Read & Re-tell**

- One person reads the Bible passage out loud, and the rest follow along.
- Someone else retells the passage by memory, if possible. Others can fill in what is missing.

**4. Look**

- Read the passage again.
- Discuss what this passage says about God, Jesus or his plan.

**5. Look again**

- Read the passage once more
- Discuss what this passage says about humans
- Discuss what this passage says about being a disciple of Jesus

**6. Inside me**

- According to this study, what am I doing well?
- What do I need to change?

**7. Who else?**

- Who needs to hear this story?
- How can I tell them?
- Who can I invite to study the Bible?

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