

**Simply Christmas:
How Jesus' birth changes our lives day after day**

Lives Interrupted

Matthew 1:18-25; Luke 1:26-38

Mary & Joseph's faithful obedience in the midst of fears

1. Initial Fear (Luke 1:28-31; Matthew 1:18-20)

In addition to being a virgin, what else made Mary an unlikely candidate to carry the Son of God?

What can we learn about God and His plan through the people He chose to be His Son's earthly parents?

2. A New Journey (Luke 1:34-37)

Compare Zechariah's and Mary's reactions to the news the angel brought each of them.

What are a few key differences between questioning God and asking questions of Him?

Why is the virgin birth vital to the Christian faith?

List a few benefits of walking through life experiences with someone who has been there and knows the process.

Do you have a mentor, someone you're walking through life with? If yes, share about the process with your group.

3. Total Resolve (Luke 1:38; Matthew 1:24-25)

Do you think choosing to marry Mary was an easy choice for Joseph? Why or why not?

How do you think Joseph's peers reacted when they learned he was going to marry his seemingly unfaithful bride?

What do we learned about Joseph through his obedience to the angel's command?

Name something God has asked you to sacrifice in order to follow His plan for your life?

How does Mary & Joseph's story encourage you that God knows what He's doing even if you don't understand?

(Application questions may be found this week on our Face book page)

Next Tuesday, Dec 27, Coffee House at Shakopee Campus

Tuesday, Jan 3, Good News, Great Joy, Luke 2:1-20