SEASON OF WORDER

THE MOST WONDERFUL TIME OF THE YEAR CELEBRATES THE MOST WONDERFUL MOMENT IN TIME



¹⁸This is how the birth of Jesus the Messiah came about: His mother Mary was pledged to be married to Joseph, but before they came together, she was found to be pregnant through the Holy Spirit.

MATTHEW 1:18

* When challenges come into our lives, our default reaction is fear.



+ Panic and anxiety

- + Panic and <u>anxiety</u>
- Hopelessness and pessimism

- + Panic and anxiety
- + Hopelessness and pessimism
- Irritation with people and things

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 Paralyzes and causes procrastination

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- Paralyzes and causes procrastination
- + Retreat and isolation

- + Panic and anxiety
- Hopelessness and pessimism
- Irritation with people and things

- Paralyzes and causes procrastination
- * Retreat and isolation
- Causes us to turn to unhealthy <u>addictions</u>

¹⁹Because 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.

MATTHEW 1:19 NIV



²⁰But 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."

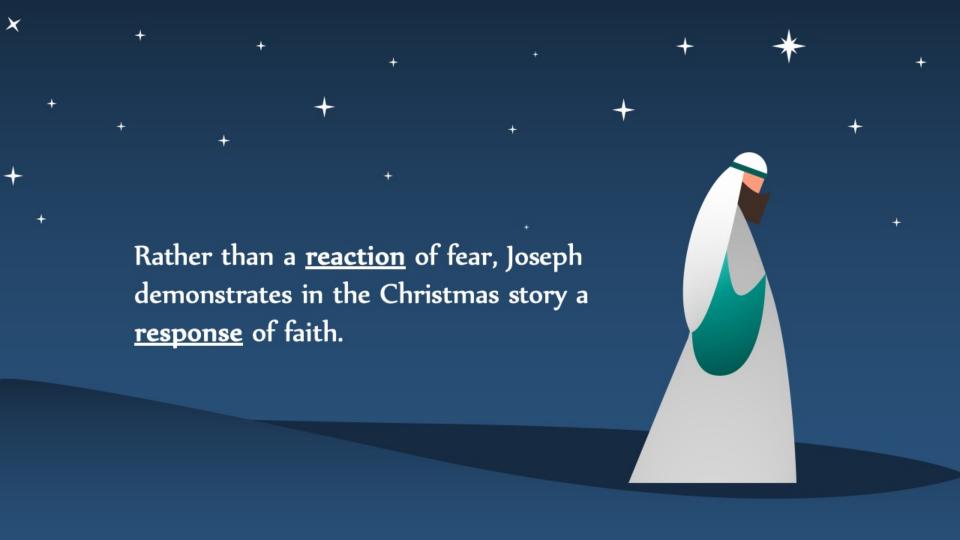
MATTHEW 1:20-21 NIV



²⁴When Joseph woke up, he did what the angel of the Lord had commanded him and took Mary home as his wife.

MATTHEW 1:24 NIV

WHEN CHALLENGES COME INTO OUR LIVES OUR DECISIVE RESPONSE SHOULD BE FAITH.





+ Ask the Lord for more faith.

+ Ask the Lord for more faith.

²⁴Immediately the father of the child cried out and said, "I believe; help my unbelief!"

MARK 9:24 ESV

+ Ask the Lord for more faith.

⁵The apostles said to the Lord, "Increase our faith!"

LUKE 17:5 NIV

+ Focus your faith on God.



It is very common for us to focus our faith on the

RESULTS

+ Focus your faith on God.

"But now, Lord, what do I look for? My hope is in you".

PSALM 39:7 NIV

+ TRUST GOD FOR THESE CIRCUMSTANCES, BUT I TRUST HIM NO MATTER WHAT HAPPENS WITH THESE CIRCUMSTANCES.

+ Inform your faith with insight.

+ Inform your faith with insight.

⁷For we live by faith, not by sight.

2 CORINTHIANS 5:7 NIV

+ Inform your faith with insight.

'Now faith is confidence in what we hope for and assurance about what we do not see.

HEBREWS 11:1 NIV



+ Look to the **reward** of faith

+ Look to the **reward** of faith

⁶And without faith it is impossible to please God, because anyone who comes to him must believe that he exists and that he rewards those who earnestly seek him.

HEBREWS 11:6 NIV

NOTICE TWO REWARDS FROM THIS VERSE

*NOTICE TWO REWARDS FROM THIS VERSE



The reward of us pleasing <u>God</u>

*NOTICE TWO REWARDS FROM THIS VERSE



The reward of us pleasing <u>God</u>



The reward of God pleasing us

But now the Lord declares: 'Far be it from me! Those who honor me I will honor, but those who despise me will be disdained'.

1 SAMUEL 2:30B NIV

TWO QUESTIONS FOR ALL OF US TODAY:

TWO QUESTIONS FOR ALL OF US TODAY:

What is <u>requiring</u> faith in your life today?

WO QUESTIONS FOR ALL OF US TODAY:

What is <u>requiring</u> faith in your life today?

So, what will you do?