

It's important that God's Word continues after the message. At Celebrate, we find that you will talk over this week's message long after our experience is over. That's because God has lasting impact. The Sermon Discussion Guide is designed to help you continue the conversation all week.

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## Vintage Joseph

This week Keith talked about Joseph. Although there is not a lot written about the stepfather of Jesus, he was key to God's plan and very relevant in our salvation. We know that Joseph did not have a lot to say in the Scriptures, but he spoke very loudly with his actions.

Read *Matthew 1:18-25*. There are three keys to Joseph's walk that talked loudly.

### **Joseph walked loudly – in Christ-likeness**

Joseph was a righteous man who carefully considered how his decisions would affect Mary. Joseph chose to be Christ-like before Christ was even born. Do you consider yourself to be a righteous person? Explain your definition of righteousness.

*2 Corinthians 5:21; Matthew 1:19; Ezekiel 18:9; Philippians 2:1-5*

### **Joseph walked loudly – in Compassion**

You can imagine that Joseph was hurt when Mary told him she was pregnant, and he knew he was not the father. Do you think you would react the way Joseph did? He showed Christ-like compassion. When we are hurt, how we respond is very important. Describe what compassion means to you. Can you give an example of when someone was compassionate to you? How can we prepare ourselves to respond rather than react to a situation or issue?

*James 3:17; 1 Corinthians 13:5; Colossians 3:12*

### **Joseph walked loudly – in Commitment**

Three times in the Bible an angel appeared to Joseph and gave him instructions on what God wanted him to do. Three times Joseph showed his commitment to God by doing. He did not question why; he did not contemplate the risk; he obeyed. Do you honor God by doing what He commands? Describe a time when you obeyed God, even when you did not understand. What was the outcome? How do you know what God wants you to do?

*Matthew 1:24; Psalm 27:14; Psalm 37:5; 1 Peter 4:19*

“Christ is not valued, unless He is valued above all.” ~ Saint Augustine

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## Make It Real

- Commit at least 15 minutes a day to reading God's Word.
- Respond to the “nudge” of the Holy Spirit and write down what happened.
- Ask God to reveal His purpose to you . Keep your eyes open for the answer.
- Perform a random act of kindness every day for a week. Share with the group how it felt.