

December 12

# NEXT STEPS



## The Wonder of Christmas: Joseph, Faith

This Sunday, we will continue our Advent Series: The Wonder of Christmas. Our message focuses on the story of Joseph and the role of faith in his story - and ours.

### Questions to *Dig Deeper*:

1. Describe a time when you felt out of control. Your example can be light-hearted or serious.
2. Our concept of the Christmas story has become so sanitized over the years that we often fail to grasp the human reality of it. What would Joseph's reaction have been to learning that Mary was pregnant? What do you think of Joseph's plan? (V. 19)
3. What fear on Joseph's part does the angel address here? (The fear of going ahead with the marriage to Mary and adopting Jesus as his son).
4. What would it "cost" Joseph to go ahead and marry Mary?
5. Based on these verses, what effect did the angel's message have on Joseph?
6. Do you think that Joseph's response of faith to God became easy after the angel's visit?
7. Sunday Pastor Bill's big idea was: **Faith trusts in a future we cannot yet imagine, and believes in a reality we cannot yet see or understand.** What places in life does it come naturally for you to make that choice, and what places is it more challenging?