



Key Scripture:

For unto us a Child is born, Unto us a Son is given...

### Hard To Unwrap...

Matthew 1:18-25 NLT

18 This is how Jesus the Messiah was born. His mother, Mary, was engaged to be married to Joseph. But before the marriage took place, while she was still a virgin, she became pregnant through the power of the Holy Spirit. 19 **Joseph, her fiancé, was a good man** and did not want to disgrace her publicly, so he decided to break the engagement quietly.

20 As he considered this, an angel of the Lord appeared to him in a dream. "Joseph, son of David," the angel said, "do not be afraid to take Mary as your wife. For the child within her was conceived by the Holy Spirit. 21 And she will have a Son, and you are to **name Him Jesus, for He will save His people from their sins.**"

22 All of this occurred to fulfill the Lord's message through His prophet:

23 "Look! The virgin will conceive a child! She will give birth to a Son, and they will call him Immanuel, which means 'God is with us.'"

24 When Joseph woke up, he did as the angel of the Lord commanded and took Mary as his wife. 25 But he did not have sexual relations with her until her son was born.

And Joseph named Him Jesus.

### Why do we make bad decisions?

- ✓ **Continuous Distractions**
- ✓ **Multi-Tasking**
- ✓ **Emotions**

James 2:13 NASB

For judgment will be merciless to one who has shown no mercy; **mercy triumphs over judgment.**

- ✓ **Analysis Paralysis:**

1 Kings 18:21 NCV

How long will you not **decide** between two choices?

Notes: \_\_\_\_\_  
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# Real Life Christmas

## Hard To Unwrap

### Making a Good Decision...

#### 1. THINK like **Jesus.**

Matthew 1:19 NLT

**Joseph, her fiancé, was a good man** and **did not want to disgrace her publicly**, so he decided to break the engagement quietly.

Philippians 2:3-5 CEV

3 Don't be jealous or proud, but be humble and consider others more important than yourselves. 4 Care about them as much as you care about yourselves 5 and **think the same way that Christ Jesus thought:**

#### 2. TAKE time to **consider** what God wants you to do.

Matthew 1:20-21 NLT

20 **As he considered this**, an angel of the Lord appeared to him in a dream. "Joseph, son of David," the angel said, "do not be afraid to take Mary as your wife. For the child within her was conceived by the Holy Spirit. 21 And she will have a Son, and you are to **name Him Jesus, for He will save His people from their sins.**"

Proverbs 14:15 NLT

Only simpletons believe everything they're told!  
The prudent **carefully consider** their steps.

#### 3. TRANSFORM God's instructions into your **actions.**

Matthew 1:24-25 NLT

24 When Joseph woke up, **he did as the angel of the Lord commanded** and took Mary as his wife. 25 But **he did not have sexual relations with her** until her son was born. **And Joseph named Him Jesus.**

Philippians 4:13 NKJV

**I can do all things through Christ** who strengthens me.

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