

The Fourth Sunday in Advent ~ Sunday, December 19, 2021
“The Questions of Advent ~
Joseph: Will I Obey God Even When It Doesn’t Make Sense?”
Matthew 2:18-25

Obedience = _____ + _____ + _____

“If you love me, you will obey what I command.” (John 14:15)

“Trust in the Lord with all your heart and do not lean on your own understanding.
Seek his will in all you do, and he will show you which path to take.” (Proverbs 3:5)

4 LESSONS ABOUT OBEDIENCE FROM THE LIFE OF JOSEPH

Lesson #1. _____.

“When Joseph awoke from sleep, he did as the angel of the Lord commanded him;
he took her as his wife, but had no marital relations with her until she had borne a
son; and he named him Jesus.” (Matthew 1:24)

“I will hasten and not delay to obey your commands.” (Psalm 119:60)

“This is love for God: to obey his commands. And his commands are not burdensome.” (John 5:3)

God’s commands are only burdensome when we:

Lesson #2. _____.

“But he had no union with her until she gave birth to a son. And he gave him the
name Jesus.” (Matthew 1:25)

“We are pressed on every side by troubles, but not crushed and broken. We are
perplexed because we don’t know why things happen as they do, but we don’t give
up and quit.” (2 Corinthians 4:8)

When life doesn’t make sense, we have two choices:

“For my thoughts are not your thoughts, nor are your ways my ways, says the Lord.
For as the heavens are higher than the earth, so are my ways higher than your ways

and my thoughts than your thoughts.” (Isaiah 55:8)

Lesson #3. _____.

“When the wise men had gone, an angel of the Lord appeared to Joseph in a dream.
‘Get up,’ he said, ‘take the child and his mother and escape to Egypt. Stay there
until I tell you, for Herod is going to search for the child to kill him.’ So he got up,
took the child and his mother during the night and left for Egypt, where he stayed
until the death of Herod.” (Matthew 2:13)

Obedience to God can sometimes bring a certain level of:

**We need to remember that it’s often through times of discomfort that we can
grow in:**

“Praise be to the God and Father of our Lord Jesus Christ, the Father of compassion
and the God of all comfort.” (2 Corinthians 1:3)

What have been your sources of comfort?

Lesson #4. _____.

“After Herod died, an angel of the Lord appeared in a dream to Joseph in Egypt and
said, ‘Get up, take the child and his mother and go to the land of Israel, for those
who were trying to take the child’s life are dead.’ The Joseph got up, took the child
and his mother, and went to the land of Israel.” (Matthew 2:19)

“Even when I am afraid, I keep on trusting you.” (Psalm 56:3)

Faced with our fears we have 2 choices:

When was the last time you took a risk because of your faith?



“Give me insight so I can do what you tell me—my whole life one long, obedient
response.” (Psalm 119:34)

Will I obey God even when it doesn’t make sense? is a question of faith.
Joseph answered this question with a resounding; “Yes!”
How will you respond?