

CHANGED LIVES

Lesson 13

JOSEPH:

Matthew 1:1-17

Matthew 1:18-25

Luke 2:1-7

Luke 2:8-20

Luke 2:21-35

Luke 2:36-40

Matthew 2:13-18

Matthew 2:19-23

Luke 2:41-52

Luke 3:23

Matthew 13:55 (Mark 6:3)

Luke 4:22

John 1:45

John 6:42

Did you Notice:

Joseph means: "He will add"

Matthew 1:1-17 This genealogy would remind the Hebrews how God had worked in miraculous and unexpected ways to fulfill His will. It shows that He was faithful to the promises that He had made to the forefathers and Israelites. God had a plan and the power to bring it to fruition.

Matthew 1:18-25 An engagement was as binding as a marriage and could only be broken through a divorce. Joseph was a devout man and determined to do what was right. God guides Joseph through this difficult time (he would be bringing disgrace upon himself by taking Mary as his wife who was expecting a child). Joseph had gone from being an anonymous carpenter to the future step father of the Messiah. He obeys God's command in all respects. Note that its not recorded that Joseph says anything in this account.

Luke 2:1-7 Joseph and Mary were both from the tribe of Judah and returned there for the census. They accepted what accommodations were available and Jesus was born into a poor family in very simple surroundings. How daunting the immediate future must have seemed to this man.

Luke 2:8-20 Joseph and Mary are surrounded by shepherds who confirm the significance of Jesus' birth.

Luke 2:21-35 Joseph demonstrates his faithfulness by going the 8th day to have the child circumcised and then at the time of purification; offering a pair of birds (gift made by the poor). Simeon declares the significance of the child and fulfillment of God's promises to His people. Note that Simeon's declaration that the "sword will pierce your soul too"; was prophesied regarding Mary and not Joseph. During Jesus' ministry and then death, it appears that Joseph has passed away.

Luke 2:36-40 Anna comes and declares her message of thanksgiving. Luke then moves ahead to Joseph and Mary returning from their exile in Egypt to their settling in Nazareth.

Matthew 2:13-18 After the arrival of the Magi, presentation of their gifts and departure; Joseph is instructed in a dream to take the child and Mary to Egypt. Again you see his obedience and quiet, submissive nature.

Matthew 2:19-23 God continues to speak and guide Joseph. Time to return, warning about Herod's son, causes Joseph to return to Nazareth in fulfillment of prophecy. There we have nothing until Jesus is 12 years old. Joseph has cared for and provided for his family.

Luke 2:41-52 Joseph continues to show his commitment to the Lord and faithfulness by returning to Jerusalem for the feast of the Passover. When Jesus is found, Joseph is not recorded saying anything. They return home where Jesus continues to obey His parents. Joseph would have been teaching Jesus how to be a carpenter. This is the last we hear of Joseph's involvement and presence.

Luke 3:23 This genealogy is suggested by some to be Mary's ancestry; showing she as well was descended from David and back to Abraham in keeping with the promises.

Matthew 13:55 (Mark 6:3) There is debate among scholars as to these children belonging to Joseph & Mary, or were Joseph's from a previous marriage.

Luke 4:22 Joseph had allowed people to think that Jesus was his son.

John 1:45 see note on Luke 4:22

John 6:42 see note on Luke 4:22

What lessons can you learn for YOUR life?