

A Cast of Misfits



**Sermon Outline
December 8, 2024
Pastor Bryan Myers**

**Joseph –
The unexpectedly
recruited stepfather.
Matthew 1:18-25**

*** God often recruits common people to do _____ things.**

*** A number of God's recruits weren't certain that God made the _____ choice.**

1 Corinthians 15:9 - For I am the least of the apostles and do not even deserve to be called an apostle, because I persecuted the church of God.

Joseph's Misfit Story

Matthew 1:18-25 - This is how the birth of Jesus the Messiah came about: His mother Mary was pledged to be married to Joseph, but before they came together, she was found to be pregnant through the Holy Spirit. 19 Because Joseph her husband was faithful to the law, and yet did not want to expose her to public disgrace, he had in mind to divorce her quietly. 20 But after he had considered this, an angel of the Lord appeared to him in a dream and said, "Joseph son of David, do not be afraid to take Mary home as your wife, because what is conceived in her is from the Holy Spirit. 21 She will give birth to a son, and you are to give him the name Jesus, because He will save His people from their sins." 22 All this took place to fulfill what the Lord had said through the prophet: 23 "The virgin will conceive and give birth to a son, and they will call him Immanuel" (which means "God with us"). 24 When Joseph woke up, he did what the angel of the Lord had commanded him and took Mary home as his wife. 25 But he did not consummate their marriage until she gave birth to a son. And he gave him the name Jesus.

*** This is pretty much everything we know about**

Joseph: 1) *Of the lineage of David* 2) *A _____*
3) *Betrothed to Mary* 4) *Faithful to the law* 5) *Still felt some compassion for Mary after hearing the "news."*

*** What we don't know is _____ or _____
Joseph found out that his bride-to-be was pregnant.**

** But after taking the time and assessing the situation from all sides, and also acknowledging the humanity of Mary, he made a choice that would be _____.*

*** Joseph demonstrated remarkable composure and _____.**

*** Challenging circumstances don't make you who you are as much as they _____ who you are.**

*** There's a sense in which we _____ misfits.**

Romans 12:2 - Do not conform to the pattern of this world, but be transformed by the renewing of your mind. Then you will be able to test and approve what God's will is—his good, pleasing and perfect will.

*** When you follow God, you will likely find yourself, like Joseph, caught between what makes sense to you and what _____.**

*** We need to do what Joseph did: _____.**

Vs. 24 - When Joseph woke up, he did what the angel of the Lord had commanded him and took Mary home as his wife.

** Joseph didn't let his confusion disrupt his _____.*

** Faith is taking the first step even when you can't see the whole staircase.*

** Joseph didn't know everything, but he did what he _____.*

Matthew 2:13-14 - When they 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.

*** God still needs people like Joseph. _____
people ready to serve an _____ ordinary God.**