

December 8th-14th, 2018
Community Group Questions
Flee or Follow?

Opener: If you could have one thing for yourself this Christmas that you have always wanted, dreamed of, or seems impossible to have, what would it be? (anything)

Before you read the passage together, pray and ask the Holy Spirit to reveal the truth of the passage to you.

Read out loud as a group: Matthew 1:18-25

1. What did the Holy Spirit show you in the passage?
2. Joseph's plans were changed not once, but twice in this story. He went from being betrothed (legally binding engagement) to Mary with all the plans and hopes that it offered, and then had his plans changed when she was found with child. He was then confronted by an angel of the Lord and with yet another change of plans. Discuss Joseph's human perspective for a moment as a group. How can you relate with Joseph in having big life plans changed?
3. How did this change of plans work out for Joseph? How did it work out for you?
4. Read Matthew 1:21-23 (A prophecy from Isaiah 7:14). Within all that happens during the Christmas season, how much do we focus on the fact that Jesus is Immanuel "God with us"? How does/has/should the truth of Immanuel change our Christmas and life?
5. For Joseph, following God meant abandoning his own plans. The choice he made over 2,000 years ago to be obedient to God not only changed his life, but it is still changing people's lives today!

What choices are you facing in life right now?

Will you follow God's plan or your own?

What do you think the immediate and long-term effects will be?

Closing: How can the group pray for you?