**VISITATIONS: “JOSEPH’S Change of Plans”**

**Dec 13, 2020.**   Matthew 1:18-25

***18****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 yetdid not want to expose her to public disgrace, he had in mind to divorce her quietly.* Matthew 1:18-19

**Key: You Don’t Have To Understand God’s Plans To Trust His Purpose.**

*Many are the plans in a person's heart, but it is the LORD's purpose that prevails.* Proverbs 19:21

* **When God Says *STAY In Marriage:* “Yes, Lord”.**

***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.”* Matthew 1:20-21

**Key**: Confidence in What God Believes About You Is Best Way To Nullify What Others Think About You.

***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”).*  Matthew 1:22-23

**God is *With* You…**

***7****Where can I go from your Spirit? Where can I flee from your presence?* ***8****If I go up to the heavens, you are there; if I make my bed in the depths, you are there.* ***9****If I rise on the wings of the dawn, if I settle on the far side of the sea,* ***10****even there your hand will guide me, your right hand will hold me fast..*  Psalm 139:7-14

**Jesus** *Peace I leave with you; my peace I give you. I do not give to you as the world gives. Do not let your hearts be troubled and do not be afraid.*

 John 14:27

***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.* Matthew 1:24-25

*Isn’t this the carpenter? Isn’t this* ***Mary’s*** *son and the* ***brother*** *of James, Joseph, Judas and Simon? Aren’t his* ***sisters*** *here with us?” And they took offense at him.* Mark 6:3

* **When God Says *LEAVE TOWN:* “Yes, Lord”.**

*After Jesus was born in* ***Bethlehem*** *in Judea, during the time of King Herod,****Magi****from the east came to Jerusalem****2****and asked, “Where is the one who has been born king of the Jews? We saw his star when it rose and have come to worship him.* Matthew 2:1

***13****When they (Magi) 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.”* ***14****So he got up, took the* ***child*** *and his mother during the night and left for* ***Egypt****,****15****where he stayed until the death of Herod. And so was fulfilled what the Lord had said through the prophet: “Out of Egypt I called my son.”****16****When Herod realized that he had been outwitted by the Magi, he was furious, and he gave orders to kill all the boys in Bethlehem and its vicinity who were two years old and under, in accordance with the time he had learned from the Magi.* Matt 2:13-18

* **When God Says RETURN TO NAZARETH: “Yes, Lord”.**

***19****After Herod died, an angel of the Lord appeared in a dream to Joseph in Egypt****20****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.”*

***21****So he got up, took the child and his mother and went to the land of Israel.****22****But when he heard that Archelaus was reigning in Judea in place of his father Herod, he was afraid to go there. Having been warned in a dream, he withdrew to the district of Galilee,****23****and he went and lived in a town called* ***Nazareth****. So was fulfilled what was said through the prophets, that he would be called a Nazarene.* Matthew 2:19-23

**POINSETTIAS**