

"A Father Named Joseph" Matthew 1:18-20, 24-25

Why was Joseph purposely selected by GOD to raise the Son of GOD?

Some reasons why GOD chose Joseph:

1. Joseph was an incredibly _____ . Proverbs 22:29

A. Matthew 13:55 tells us that JESUS was the son of a _____ .

The word for carpenter is _____ which means artisan, craftsman, wood-worker, mason, builder, teacher, or _____. It can mean one who builds exquisite furniture, jewelry, mosaics, or is a construction

_____. It is where we get the word, _____. Joseph

was not a poor, simple woodworker, but a _____ professional.

Certainly, Joseph worked as a "tekton" in nearby _____ .

B. Herod Antipas, a son of Herod the Great, invested heavily in making Sepphoris the magnificent _____ . Sepphoris became the

_____ center of the region, with many affluent professionals moving

there. It was a bustling city on the cutting edge of culture. Many of the

workers in Sepphoris, lived in Nazareth, commuting the _____ to

work. More than likely this is what Joseph did as a highly skilled craftsman, building supervisor, and a man trusted with _____ .

C. Certainly the city of Sepphoris impacted our Savior's life. JESUS would have spent time with his _____ there. HE would have worked side-by-

side with Joseph in the _____ there for many years. HE would have

been exposed to the enormous wealth of the city, the theater, industry, and a

broad _____ of life HE would have never been exposed to in tiny

Nazareth. This proved to be a foundation of life from which HE could speak

on a wide variety of subjects with _____ .

2. Joseph was a _____ man. Luke 16:11

A. Does it make sense, that if GOD was going to choose one man in history – to be given the greatest _____ ever – the responsibility of

_____ the Son of GOD – that HE would choose the _____

faithful man ever?

A. GOD _____ great riches and great assignments to people whom HE has found to be faithful in _____ assignments. (very predictable)

B. GOD watched Joseph, and HE is also _____ you. Do you show _____ in everything? Do you _____ tasks? Eccl. 7:8

Can GOD trust you with a bigger assignment?

3. Joseph was a _____ man. Matthew 1:18-19, Mt. 5:7

A. Mary was betrothed to Joseph. This engagement would last _____

and was a time of preparation for their life together. The fact that Joseph showed _____ restraint during this time, showed that he wanted GOD's _____ on his life, more than he wanted to fulfill the drive of his flesh.

B. During this year of engagement, Mary became _____ pregnant with JESUS. She told Joseph of her pregnancy. This was hurtful, confusing, and _____ to this young man. Being a _____ man, Joseph was committed to doing the _____.

C. Joseph could have made a public example of Mary. He could have had her legally _____. Instead of vindicating himself, or defending his honor, Joseph was going to break the engagement _____ to save Mary the humiliation of public embarrassment. He did this because he loved her, and cared more for _____, than for his own.

4. Joseph _____ to GOD. Mt. 1:20

A. Joseph woke up from his dream and promptly obeyed GOD. The Voice of GOD _____ the difficult issue facing Joseph. Over time, Joseph had developed _____ of obedience to GOD. This is what GOD is looking for as HE studies your life.

B. What you are facing now, is a _____. Will you listen?

5. Joseph was _____ to GOD. Matthew 2:11-15

A. Shortly after the Magi visited the Messiah in Bethlehem, bestowing valuable gifts to the family, Joseph again had an important dream from GOD. He was told to "_____, take the Child and Mary, and _____ to Egypt, and to remain there until _____."

B. Joseph did not consider the _____ of his business interests in Galilee, or the pain of leaving their families behind. He didn't drag his feet, or give GOD excuses. He quickly obeyed GOD and _____ all their lives.

6. Joseph led his _____. Luke 2:41-42

A. Luke 2 tells us that Joseph took his family _____ to Jerusalem to celebrate the Feast of Passover. This demonstrates Joseph's _____ in leading his family spiritually. Modeling pays off.

B. Men, like Joseph, take the spiritual responsibility for your family. You will never do this _____. But just get started. Get them in church consistently. Read the Bible with them regularly. Teach them to pray with you daily. Ask them questions about life. Do not wound them by anger. Love their _____. Tell them that you love them and are proud of them.

