

HOW TO LIVE AN EXTRAORDINARY LIFE

Lessons in Faith from an Ordinary Joe

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"This is how the birth of Jesus Christ came about: His mother Mary was pledged to be married to Joseph, but before they came together, she was found to be with child through the Holy Spirit. Because Joseph her husband was a righteous man and did not want to expose her to public disgrace, he had in mind to divorce her quietly."

Matthew 1:18-19 (NIV)

• OBEY GOD IN SPITE OF _____

"How will this be," Mary asked the angel, "since I am a virgin?" The angel answered, "The Holy Spirit will come upon you, and the power of the Most High will overshadow you. So the holy one to be born will be called the Son of God. Even Elizabeth your relative is going to have a child in her old age, and she who was said to be barren is in her sixth month. For nothing is impossible with God."

Luke 1:34-37 (NIV)

- No _____ of God shall lack the _____ of God for its fulfillment
- My _____ is God's _____

"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. 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' . . . When Joseph woke up, he did what the angel of the Lord had commanded him and took Mary home as his wife. But he had no union with her until she gave birth to a son. And he gave him the name, Jesus."

Matthew 1:20-25 (NIV)

• OBEY GOD IN SPITE OF _____

"In those days Caesar Augustus issued a decree that a census should be taken of the entire Roman world . . . And everyone went to his own town to register. So Joseph also went up from the town of Nazareth in Galilee to Judea, to Bethlehem the town of David, because he belonged to the house and line of David. He went there to register with Mary, who was pledged to be married to him and was expecting a child. While they were there, the time came for the baby to be born, and she gave birth to her firstborn, a son. She wrapped him in cloths and placed him in a manger, because there was no room for them in the inn."

Luke 2:1-7 (NIV)

"But you, Bethlehem . . . out of you will come for me one who will be ruler over Israel, whose origins are from of old, from days of eternity."

Micah 5:2 (NIV)

• OBEY GOD IN SPITE OF _____

"When Joseph woke up, he did what the angel of the Lord had commanded."

Matthew 1:24 (NIV)

" . . . 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 . . . After Herod died, an angel of the Lord appeared in a dream to Joseph in Egypt 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.' SO HE GOT UP, took the child and his mother and went to the land of Israel."

Matthew 2:13-14, 19-21 (NIV)

"Morning by morning he awakens my ear to hear what he is going to teach me."

Isaiah 50:4 (NIV)

I want to be a man that You would write about
Oh, a thousand years from now that they could read about
Your servant of choice, in whom you found favor
A man who heard your voice
(A Man You Would Write About — Author unknown)

"I will hurry, without delay, to obey your commands."

Psalms 119:60 (NLT)