Matthew 1:18-19 (NIV) - 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. 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.

Christmas is a season of surprises,
some enjoyed and some endured.

God's sovereign plan for that first Christmas
left no detail to chance.

Romans 11:33 (NIV) - Oh, the depth of the riches of the wisdom and knowledge of God! How unsearchable his judgements, and his paths beyond tracing out!

God's surprises and sovereignty impacted Joseph and Mary,
and it can impact you too.

Who would blame Joseph for wanting to divorce Mary?

What is your reaction when you get news that is unfair
or totally beyond your control?

Gabriel tells Joseph,
"If you think too small or selfish you will get in God's way."

Matthew 1:20b (NIV) - 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.

Joseph swapped his reputation for a rattle.

In the end, Joseph places God's plan ahead of his. Will you?

NOTES

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