



FIRST BAPTIST CHURCH
R O C H E S T E R

Sermon Discussion Guide
April 26, 2026

Refresh

Read Matthew 1:18-25 to get the Scripture passage back in your mind.

Discuss

We were reminded that God often works through “messy” and confusing situations. Where have you seen this pattern in Scripture, or in your own life, and how does it shape your understanding of how God works in the midst of a broken world? In what ways should this pattern encourage us as believers?

Joseph was described as both just and compassionate. How do you see these two qualities held together in his response, and what does that teach us about balancing truth and grace in our own lives? Why is it often challenging to be both just and compassionate in our lives?

This passage highlights the importance of the virgin birth for understanding who Jesus is. Why is it essential that Jesus is both truly God and truly man, and what would be at stake if either were not true?

The angel declared that Jesus came “to save his people from their sins.” How does this clarify the true nature of our greatest problem, and how does it confront common misconceptions about what we need saving from? How might Jesus’ mission, as described by the angel, inform our mission as believers today?

Joseph obeyed God immediately, even though it meant personal cost, misunderstanding, and potential shame. What does his example teach us about obedience when following God may harm our reputation or comfort? How can we cultivate a heart that desires to obey God, even when it’s hard?

It was noted that Joseph seems to fade into the background in the Gospels so that Jesus is central. In what ways is this instructive for us in how we should consider our lives? In what ways can we make less of ourselves so that Jesus might be more prominent to those around us?