

# Joseph's Obedience

January 11, 2026

*<sup>16</sup> Then the eleven disciples went to Galilee, to the mountain where Jesus had told them to go. <sup>17</sup> When they saw him, they worshiped him; but some doubted. <sup>18</sup> Then Jesus came to them and said, "All authority in heaven and on earth has been given to me. <sup>19</sup> Therefore go and make disciples of all nations, baptizing them in the name of the Father and of the Son and of the Holy Spirit, <sup>20</sup> and teaching them to obey everything I have commanded you. And surely I am with you always, to the very end of the age."*

**Matthew 28:16-20**

(Jesus) *"If you love me, keep my commands."*

**John 14:15**

*<sup>22</sup> Do not merely listen to the word, and so deceive yourselves. Do what it says. <sup>23</sup> Anyone who listens to the word but does not do what it says is like someone who looks at his face in a mirror <sup>24</sup> and, after looking at himself, goes away and immediately forgets what he looks like. <sup>25</sup> But whoever looks intently into the perfect law that gives freedom, and continues in it—not forgetting what they have heard, but doing it—they will be blessed in what they do.*

**James 1:22-25**

(Jesus) *replied, "Blessed rather are those who hear the word of God and obey it."*

**Luke 11:28**

## A Key Moment Of Obedience

### 1. You have no idea what God will do when you obey Him.

*<sup>18</sup> 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. <sup>19</sup> 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.*

**Matthew 1:18-19**

### 2. You don't have to understand completely to obey God.

*<sup>20</sup> 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. <sup>21</sup> 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."*

*<sup>22</sup> All this took place to fulfill what the Lord had said through the prophet: <sup>23</sup> "The virgin will conceive and give birth to a son, and they will call him Immanuel" (which means "God with us").*

**Matthew 1:20-23**

### **3. Obedience is our responsibility, the outcome is God's.**

*<sup>24</sup> When Joseph woke up, he did what the angel of the Lord had commanded him and took Mary home as his wife. <sup>25</sup> 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**

## **Small Group Discussion Questions for the Week of January 11, 2026.**

### **Opening**

1. Are you a New Years Resolution maker? Why or why not?

### **Digging Deeper into the Scriptures**

Read Matthew 1:18-24

1. What aspect of Joseph's obedience is significant to you? Why?

Read Matthew 28:16-20

2. In this Great Commission passage, why does Jesus want disciples to be made by "...teaching them to obey everything I have commanded you"?

Read James 1:22-25

3. What does it look like to deceive yourself by only hearing the Word, and how can you guard against this?
4. How is the Bible like a mirror? What does it show you about yourself, and how do you respond when you see imperfections?

### **Applying the Scriptures**

1. How can the Small Group help you become a better "doer of the Word"?
2. How can the Small Group encourage you to balance being a child of God and being an obsessive doer of the Word?