

Week 4: Love in the Midst of the Messy
Scripture: Matthew 1:18-25



Things we learn in Matthew 1:

Jesus was born into the royal _____ of David.

- Mentions 4 _____ by name and a 5th is alluded to
- Joseph and Mary are both _____.

Jesus is born into a _____ situation

- The _____ of Joseph is important.

God enters the _____.

- The _____ is about God fully entering _____.
- It's about _____ and _____.

Big Idea:

If God willingly entered a complicated family _____ in the incarnation, then our _____ aren't too much for God.

The heart of the Gospel:

“For God so _____ the world, that he sent his Son” into our _____, that we might _____ and be _____ by him.

Start talking.

- What 2 positive qualities about your dad come to mind as you recall your childhood.
- Describe a messy time in life.

Start thinking.

- How would you feel if you were in Joseph's place in v19?
 - In verses 20-21?
 - What would you say to family and friends?
 - To God?
- What reason does Matthew give as to why Jesus was born (v21)?

Start sharing.

- Share of a time where God entered into a messy time of your life.
- How have you experienced Jesus as "Immanuel" in your life lately?
- What do you learn about faith from Joseph?

Start praying. Be bold and pray with power.

God, my life is often not what I know would be called ideal. Thank you that in your love you still enter into the messes of life and family to bring your hope, your peace, your joy, and your love - basically that you continue to bring yourself.

Start doing. Commit to a step and live it out this week.

- Pray daily for God to reveal Himself to you and one other person you choose to pray for.
- Start living as light within a world that is consumed in the messiness of sin and selfishness, and allow God to use you to show others God's love.