

Name: \_\_\_\_\_

Date: \_\_\_\_\_

## MARY AND JOSEPH

*“Blessed is she who believed, for there will be a fulfillment of those things which were told her from the Lord.” (Luke 1:45)*

### Objectives

Knowledge of God’s Will	God chose Joseph and Mary to be part of His salvation plan.
Knowledge of God	God has the sovereignty to choose and use whom He wills.
Good Work	Prepare ourselves to be a useful vessel for the Lord. Trust in God’s plan for our lives.

### A. Joseph

1. **The Upright One:** The Bible describes Joseph as “a just man” who did not desire for Mary to be “a public example” (Mt 1:19). He balanced justice and mercy even in this delicate matter.
2. **A Man of Faith:** Joseph’s faithfulness is illustrated in his submission to God’s will. Whenever he was urged to act by God, he immediately obeyed.
3. **A Spiritual Father:** Joseph was well versed in the laws of God and followed them faithfully. He also ensured that Jesus was brought up equally well in spiritual matters.
4. **A Caring and Responsible Father:** From Mary’s comment in Luke 2:48, it is clear that although Jesus was not Joseph’s child by blood, Joseph cared greatly for Him as a father loves a son.

### B. Mary

1. **Favored by the Lord:** Mary had been chosen by God to bring the Messiah into this world (Lk 1:28).
2. **A Humble Servant:** Mary’s response to the news of her pregnancy is an illustration of her humility. Bearing a child out of wedlock would bring her shame, but she submitted to His will (Lk 1:38).
3. **Kind-Hearted:** Upon being told of Elizabeth’s pregnancy, Mary hurried over and spent the next three months with her. Her kindness is also seen when Mary urged Jesus to act during a wedding in Cana.
4. **Kept and Pondered Things in Her Heart:** It is clear that Mary was not one to leap to conclusions, but a thoughtful person who spent time treasuring, questioning, and meditating upon things in her life.
5. **A Loving Mother to the End:** Despite the deep pain she felt upon seeing her Child suffering, Mary remained at the cross, staying as close to Jesus’ side as she could until the very end.

### C. Their Roles in God’s Salvation Plan

Neither Joseph nor Mary could ever have imagined the role they played in God’s salvation plan. Through their humility and submission to His calling, they were able to experience the miracle of Jesus’ birth and the fulfillment of the prophecy of the Messiah as written in Isaiah 7:14.

### Life Application

#### A Vessel Useful for the Lord (2 Tim 2:21)

Mary and Joseph had no wealth, nobility, or riches, but they had hearts of faith and obedience.

1. **Cultivate a heart of obedience:** Obedience requires that we deny ourselves.
2. **Be faithful in the small things:** Complete what God has entrusted to us in faith.
3. **Ask God to help us overcome our struggles:** Strive to overcome and improve ourselves.

#### Trusting In God’s Plan (Rom 8:28)

God has a plan for us, and it is important that we come to trust in this greater plan for our lives. He has already called us, and He will continue to work in our lives as long as we trust in Him and hold on to Him.

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## Lesson 2 Homework Assignment

### Mary and Joseph

	Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
Read							
Pray							

Memory Verse (Luke 1:45):

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1. What is the context for the memory verse? How do these words encourage us?
2. We learned four characteristics of Joseph today. Pick two and explain how he shows each.
3. We learned five characteristics of Mary today. Pick two and explain how she shows each.
4. What virtues allowed Joseph and Mary to be vessels for God's salvation plan?
5. How can we become vessels useful for the Lord?
6. What is one thing you can work on this week to help you serve God wholeheartedly?