

## THE BIRTH OF JESUS CHRIST

Matthew 1:18-25

Key Verse: 1:21

1. Read verse 18. What does this verse tell us about Mary's joy and blessing and what suggests her agony and struggle? What does she have in common with the women in the genealogy? What do we learn about her faith?
2. Read verse 19. Who was Joseph? What did he have in mind to do? Why? What does it mean that he was a righteous man?
3. Read verses 20-21. What happened that changed his mind? What does the angel's message to Joseph tell us about Jesus, who he is and why he is being sent into the world? What was to be his name and what does this mean?
4. Read verses 22-23. What prophecy does his birth fulfill? What is his other name? What does this teach about his salvation work?
5. Read verses 24-25. What did Joseph do? What does this show about his faith and humbleness? Why was his role in Jesus' birth so important?