

2017 Christmas Series:  
**What Child Is This? - Joseph**

Pastor Bryan Keith Dugger - 12/24/2017



**Personal Reflection**

*Take time this week to pray & respond to the following:*

*The Bible has little to say about Joseph, the earthly father of Jesus. We are not told his age, anything about his personal background or what happened to him after the birth of the Messiah. Joseph is a mystery—so integral to the earthly origin story of the Savior but so obscure that not even a single word he spoke was recorded in the canon of Scripture.*

*The one thing we do know about Joseph is that he was put in a very difficult position by the Lord's unusual & miraculous arrival. In a critical moment of his life, and one of the most important moments in all of history, Joseph rose to the occasion & trusted that God was in control. Surely, this simple & faithful man wondered, "What child is this?" as he gazed in awe at the son he would raise but whom he did not sire.*

*Joseph saw firsthand, the lengths that God went to in order to fulfill His promise to send a Messiah. He was undoubtedly among the first to understand that this baby was in reality, Immanuel—God with us.*

*How well do you understand this truth? Being born-again means that God is with you— in His ever-presence, in His all-knowledge and in His limitless power. Are you with Him? Jesus is Immanuel because of your deep need for His presence.*

*This Christmas, prayerfully consider to what degree the Son of God has a place in your life. Thank God for sending His Son into the world to save His people from the condemnation of their sin. Ask God to give you faith & courage, especially in the times when life doesn't make sense. Commit to trust God as Joseph did so long ago, because you know that the Lord loves you & has a purpose for your life.*

**I. Things We Need To Know**

---

---

**II. The Birth Of Jesus**

Matthew 1:19-25

v. 18-19

Honor & Mercy

---

---

v. 20-22

Thoughtful & Faithful

---

---

v. 23-25

Patient & Obedient

---

---

**III. God With Us**

---

---