



HOLY MOMENTS: When It's Hard to Obey

December 3, 2023 | Pastor Kirk Walters

Mount Paran North

¹⁸This is how Jesus the Messiah was born. His mother, Mary, was engaged to be married to Joseph. But before the marriage took place, while she was still a virgin, she became pregnant through the power of the Holy Spirit. ¹⁹Joseph, to whom she was engaged, was a righteous man and did not want to disgrace her publicly, so he decided to break the engagement quietly. ²⁰As he considered this, an angel of the Lord appeared to him in a dream. "Joseph, son of David," the angel said, "do not be afraid to take Mary as your wife. For the child within her was conceived by the Holy Spirit. ²¹And she will have a son, and you are to name him Jesus, for he will save his people from their sins." ²²All of this occurred to fulfill the Lord's message through his prophet: ²³"Look! The virgin will conceive a child! She will give birth to a son, and they will call him Immanuel, which means 'God is with us.'" ²⁴When Joseph woke up, he did as the angel of the Lord commanded and took Mary as his wife.

Matthew 1:18-24 NLT

1. If you expect to please God, expect to disappoint people.

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Matthew 1:18-19 NLT

- Being obsessed with what people think about you is the quickest way to forget what God thinks about you.
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2. If you're not ready to be criticized for your obedience to God, you're not ready to be used by God.

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Matthew 1:20-21 NLT

- You don't have to understand completely to obey immediately.
- Obedience is our responsibility—the outcome is God's responsibility.

3. You have no idea what God can do through one moment of obedience.

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Matthew 1:24 NLT