

<u>Saint Dad</u>

Matthew 1:18-25, 2:7-23 Luke 2:4-19

Notes:

MY APPLICATION

Use the following questions this week to reflect on what it would mean to align yourself with the truths taught in Scripture. Each question is meant for both personal reflection and as a catalyst for discussion with your family, friends, or small group.

- Place yourself in the position of Joseph, running a thriving business in your lifelong home surrounded by friends, family, and customers. You are told to shut down your business over night because a ruthless, paranoid king – who may have been one of those customers – is after your wife and child. What are some of the emotions and practical challenges you will face?
- 2. Egypt is 1,000 miles away from Galilee. Such a long journey on foot would have required a plan, provisions, etc. What are some of the practical issues Joseph would have had to manage to obey this command?
- 3. Egypt had a different language, culture, business climate, etc. Joseph had been a success in his small hometown, but doesn't know if he will make it in a major city. What are some of the natural feelings any father would likely feel in this situation?
- 4. Have you ever had to make a decision quickly with significant implications for your life or your family? Describe that situation and whether/how the Lord provided and/or sustained you.
- 5. Joseph found himself in the crosshairs of Satan's scheme to destroy both Christ's and God's plan of redemption. Have you ever faced opposition or a serious threat you felt was rooted in spiritual warfare? Describe what it was, what you did, and how God intervened.

MEMORY VERSE

"So (Joseph) got up, took the child and his mother during the night and left for Egypt, where he stayed until the death of Herod." (*Matthew 2*:14-15, *NIV*)