

# GIFTED

*What Christmas Means for You.*



## LESSON 3 // DISCOVERING GOD'S PLAN—PART 2

**Big Idea:** For you to be used by God, you need to be serious about your relationship with Him, as Joseph was. You also need to keep a soft heart toward God and His purpose—and toward others that He puts in your life. And you must be patient with the process the Lord brings you through.

Along with these it's important to pay attention to God's voice. He wants to speak to you! Then be flexible because the Lord may work and lead you in surprising ways. Finally, you need follow through and do what God calls you to do.

**Matthew 1:20-25 (NIV)** *But after he had considered this, an angel of the Lord appeared to him in a dream and said, "Joseph son of David, do not be afraid to take Mary home as your wife, because what is conceived in her is from the Holy Spirit. She will give birth to a son, and you are to give him the name Jesus, because he will save his people from their sins." All this took place to fulfill what the Lord had said through the prophet: "The virgin will conceive and give birth to a son, and they will call him Immanuel" (which means "God with us"). When Joseph woke up, he did what the angel of the Lord had commanded him and took Mary home as his wife.*

### Start Talking:

How well do you follow through when you have commitments or assignments? What is the most challenging part of this for you?

### Start Thinking:

**Read Job 12:13 and Matthew 1:20-23.** What do you learn from these verses about the need to pay attention to God's voice?

**Read Isaiah 55:8-9 and James 1:5.** How are God's ways and wisdom "higher" than the wisdom of the world and our own wisdom? What difference should this make as you seek to discover His plan for your life?

**Read Proverbs 29:1 and Matthew 21:28-32.** Why is it important to be flexible in your walk with God? What happens if you are "stiff-necked" and inflexible toward Him?

**Read Matthew 1:24-25 and Luke 8:4-8, 11-15.** How did Joseph follow through on what the Lord told Him to do? How does this speak to you about obeying God fully when He speaks to you?

### Start Praying and Doing:

Pray that God will grant you the grace to listen well as He speaks to you through His Word. Pray for a flexible heart and mind that respond to what you hear.

Look for opportunities this week to follow through on what God is speaking to you. It might be simply praying through a challenge in your life, or picking up the phone to call someone you need to talk with. Don't wait—do it now and see how God will work as you obey Him!