



Week 3
Joseph's Dream

Matthew 1:18-25

This is how the birth of Jesus Christ came about: His mother Mary was pledged to be married to Joseph, but before they came together, she was found to be with child through the Holy Spirit. ¹⁹Because Joseph her husband was a righteous man and did not want to expose her to public disgrace, he had in mind to divorce her quietly. ²⁰But 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. ²¹She will give birth to a son, and you are to give him the name Jesus, because he will save his people from their sins." ²²All this took place to fulfill what the Lord had said through the prophet: ²³"The virgin will be with child and will give birth to a son, and they will call him Immanuel"—which means, "God with us." ²⁴When Joseph woke up, he did what the angel of the Lord had commanded him and took Mary home as his wife. ²⁵But he had no union with her until she gave birth to a son. And he gave him the name Jesus.

A Close Encounter of the Dad Kind

James 4:8

Come near to God and he will come near to you. Wash your hands, you sinners, and purify your hearts, you double-minded.

1. Close encounters produce _____.

- Dads are _____.
- As the father goes, so goes the _____; as the family goes, so goes the _____; as the church goes, so goes the _____.

- Spiritual leadership includes: position, _____, _____.
- Close encounters are for those who don't abdicate their _____.
- Close encounters are found on the _____ of _____.
- True spiritual leaders realize that their family's _____ is top priority.

2. Close encounters break the _____ of _____.

- Joseph was unselfish physically, _____, and _____.
- _____ will cost you your close encounter.
- True nobility is demonstrated best through self _____ and _____.

3. Close encounters produce _____.

- Close encounters _____ us from our _____.
- _____ paralyzes us and keeps us from experiencing the power of God in our lives. (Acts 4:8-12)
- Courage is _____ in _____.
- Close encounters bring us to the place where _____ is the top priority in our lives.

"It is a great mercy to be delivered from our fears, and to have our doubts resolved, so as to proceed in our affairs with satisfaction." - Matthew Henry

- Close encounters are for those willing to _____ the _____.