

White Christmas Part 4: Joseph's Dream

Shattered Dreams

(Matthew 1:18 NLT) This 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.

(Matthew 1:19 NLT) Joseph, her fiancé, was a good man and did not want to disgrace her publicly, so he decided to break the engagement quietly.

✓ Shattered dreams come from mistakes.

✓ Shattered dreams come from complacency.

✓ Shattered dreams come from fear.

(Proverbs 13:12 NLT) Hope deferred makes the heart sick, but a dream fulfilled is a tree of life.

(Proverbs 29:18 MSG) If people can't see what God is doing, they stumble all over themselves; but when they attend to what he reveals, they are most blessed.

Joseph's Dream

(Matthew 1:20-24 NLT) As 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." All of this occurred to fulfill the Lord's message through his prophet: "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.'"

✓ God's dream redeems past mistakes.

✓ God's dream gives purpose to complacency.

✓ God's dream transforms fear into triumph and trust.

1. Accept the saving grace of Jesus.

(Matthew 1:21 NLT) Name him Jesus, for he will save his people from their sins.

2. Believe in God's redemptive ability.

(Matthew 1:22 NLT) All of this occurred to fulfill the Lord's message.

3. Start dreaming again.

(Matthew 1:23 NLT) Look! The virgin will conceive a child! She will give birth to a son, and they will call him Emmanuel, which means 'God is with us.'

(Ephesians 3:20 MSG) God can do anything, you know—far more than you could ever imagine or guess or request in your wildest dreams! He does it not by pushing us around but by working within us, his Spirit deeply and gently within us.