

约瑟的榜样

The Example of Joseph

马太福音 **1:18-25**

Matthew 1:18-25

引言 Intro:

恭祝每一位父亲

凡事兴盛，身体健壮，
正如你的灵魂兴盛一样

May every father

**prosper in all things
and to be in health,
even as your soul does prosper**

如果请你从圣经中挑选一位最称职的父亲，你会挑选谁呢？

If you were to pick from the Bible one of the most competent fathers, who would you pick?

今天廖传道挑选了耶稣的养父约瑟。

Today Pastor Liaw has chosen **Joseph**, *the adoptive father* of Jesus.

圣经对于约瑟的记载不多。

The Bible does not say much about Joseph.

在圣经里我们读不到他说话。

We don't find his speech in the Bible.

看来他不是是一个多话的男人。

It seems like he was not a man of much word.

就让我们来认识这位不多话的父亲，看看我们可以向他学习那些东西。

Let's get to know this quiet father and see what we can learn from him.

稍后我们会知道为什么说约瑟是耶稣的养父而不是生父。

Later on we will find out why was Joseph the *adoptive* father of Jesus and not the *biological* father.

A. 约瑟是个义人 (18-19)

Joseph was a righteous man (18-19)

太 1:18a 耶稣基督降生的事记在下面：
他母亲马利亚已经许配了约瑟，

Mat 1:18a This is how the birth of Jesus Christ came about: his mother Mary **was pledged** to be married to Joseph,

第18上半节说约瑟快要结婚了。

First part of verse 18 tells us that Joseph was going to get married.

又说他的未婚妻“马利亚已经许配了约瑟”。

And that his fiancée “*Mary was pledged to be married to Joseph*”.

“**许配**”是与我们的 *订婚* 做法相似，
但比订婚更具约束力。

“**pledged to be married**” was similar
to our practice of *engagement*, but
was more binding than an
engagement.

“**许配**”就等于是结了婚一样，只是在还没有举行婚礼之前，夫妻两人不能住在一块，不能发生男女肉体的关系。

To be “**pledged**” to each other was the same thing as being married, except that you could not live together until the wedding ceremony took place.

在“**许配**”的那一年里，虽然这对男女还没行婚礼，也没有住在一起，但他们却已经被称为**夫妻**了。

During that year of “**pledge**”, although the couple hadn't yet had a wedding ceremony and did not live together, they were already called ***husband and wife***.

如果男的在那一年里过世，尽管两人还没有行过婚礼，女的也要被视为是**寡妇**。

If the man died during that year, the woman would be considered ***a widow*** even though the wedding ceremony had never taken place.

这个 **许配** 期是为了考验双方彼此的委身和忠贞。

This **pledging** period was meant to be a time for testing their commitment and faithfulness to one another.

唯一解除“**许配**”之约的方法是通过 **正式的离婚** 手续。

The only way to break the “**pledge**” was through a **formal divorce** procedure.

第18节下半节给我们报告了一个令人意想不到的事情：

The second half of verse 18 reveals to us an unexpected affair:

太 1:18b 还没有迎娶，马利亚就从圣灵怀了孕。

Mat 1:18b but before they came together, she was found to be with child through the Holy Spirit.

马利亚还没有过门，两人还没正式成婚，
马利亚怀孕了！

Mary had not moved in to live with Joseph,
the two had not officially been married,
Mary was pregnant!

约瑟只知道一件事实：他 **不是** 孩子的
父亲。

Joseph only knew one thing for sure: he
was not the father of the baby.

第18节下半节的最后一段告诉我们说马利亚是**从圣灵怀了孕**，但是约瑟当时不知道是这么一回事。

The last portion of the second half of verse 18 tells us that Mary was pregnant **through the Holy Spirit**, but Joseph did not know this at that moment.

如果你是约瑟，你会有怎样的感受？

If you were Joseph, how would you feel?

Anger....

愤怒....

Confusion....

迷惑....

Frustration....

挫折....

Embarrassment....

困窘、为难....

Disappointment....

失望....

像我们任何人一样，约瑟也以为马利亚对他不忠，所以他想解除他们的“**许配**”之约。

Like any of us, Joseph thought that Mary was unfaithful to him, so he wanted to annul their “***pledge***”.

在当时，约瑟可以有两种方式解除婚约：

In those days, Joseph could get a divorce in two ways:

a) 他可以在城门口，一位法官面前公开的解除婚约。

he could get a public divorce by going before a judge at the gate of the city.

如果约瑟选择这样做，那就是让整个城镇都会知道马利亚的婚前怀孕，令马利亚和她全家蒙羞。

If Joseph had chosen to do so, it would mean that the whole town would know about Mary's pre-marriage pregnancy, and it would bring shame to Mary and her whole family.

b) 约瑟可以在两名见证人见证之下给马利亚一份休书，私下的解除婚约。

Joseph could get a private divorce by giving her the papers in the presence of two witnesses.

约瑟是个怎样的人呢？他会怎样做？

What kind of person is Joseph?

What would he do?

太 1:19 他丈夫约瑟 **是个义人**，不愿意 明明的羞辱他，想要 暗暗的把他休了。

Mat 1:19 Because 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***.

经文说约瑟是个义人，意思就是说他
要做在神眼中看为对的事情。

The scripture says that Joseph was a
righteous man, meaning that he always
wanted to do what was right in the eyes
of God.

约瑟认为马利亚对他不忠，**对人对神都是一项罪行**，所以他要做**公义的行动**，就是切断这他们之间婚约的关系。

Joseph believed that Mary was unfaithful to him and what she had done was **a sin against man and against God**. So he had to **take the righteous act**, that is, to sever their relationship of marriage contract.

约瑟是一个正直的人，他持守敬虔、正直的标准。

He was a righteous man, who held on to godly, righteous standards.

作为一家之主，每一位父亲应该在敬虔和正直方面给儿女树立好榜样。

As the head of the family, every father should be **a good example** to their children in **godliness and righteousness**.

B. 约瑟对马利亚心怀怜悯 (19)

Joseph showed mercy to Mary (19)

太 1:19 他丈夫约瑟是个义人，不愿意明明的羞辱他，想要暗暗的把他休了。

Mat 1:19 Because 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.***

前面我们说约瑟是一个正直的人，他持守敬虔、正直的标准。

We had mentioned that Joseph was a righteous man, who held on to godly, righteous standards.

但约瑟也是 **怜悯** 和 **爱心** 的好榜样。

But Joseph was also an example of **compassion** and **love**.

约瑟没有把他认为对他不忠的马利亚拉到城门口受审，在公众的眼光下蒙羞辱。

Joseph did not take Mary, who he thought was unfaithful to him, to the gate of the city for trial and be a public spectacle.

他只想要“暗暗的把她休了”。

He had in mind only “*to divorce her quietly*”.

他有正直和爱心两方面的**平衡**。他有虔诚的标准，也同时是富有怜悯心和替别人着想的人。

He had a **balance** of both righteousness, and of love. He had godly standards, and yet he was compassionate and concerned for people.

即使他认为马利亚做了对不起他的事，约瑟还是对未婚妻展示了怜悯和爱心。

Even when he thought Mary had wronged him, Joseph still showed mercy and love for his betrothed wife.

一位好爸爸也应该是一位爱孩子的妈妈的好男人。

A good father should also be a good man who loves the mother of his children.

只有透过他对妻子的爱和尊重，一个好丈夫才能教育他的孩子尊重和爱他们的母亲。

Only through his love and respect for his wife can a good husband teach his children to respect and love their mother.

让所有的爸爸在这方面给自己打打分数。

Let all fathers grade ourselves in this regard.

让我们立志对妻子表现怜惜和疼爱，做一位更好的丈夫，藉此而成为一位好父亲。

Let's aspire to be a good father through being a better husband who shows compassion and love to his wife.

C. 约瑟对神有信心 (20-25)

Joseph had faith in God (20-25)

上面我们说约瑟以为马利亚对他不忠，想要暗暗的把马利亚休了。

We have just said that Joseph thought that Mary was unfaithful to him and he wanted to divorce Mary quietly.

这个故事并没有就此为止。

The story didn't end there.

太 1:20 正思念这事的时候，有主的使者向他梦中显现，说：「大卫的子孙约瑟，不要怕！只管娶过你的妻子马利亚来，因他所怀的孕是从圣灵来的。」

Mat 1:20 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.'

太 1:21 他将要生一个儿子，你要给他起名叫耶稣，因他要将自己的百姓从罪恶里救出来。」

Mat 1:21 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.'

太 1:22 这一切的事成就是要应验主藉先知所说的话，**23** 说：「必有童女怀孕生子；人要称他的名为以马内利。」(以马内利翻出来就是「神与我们同在」。)

Mat 1:22 All this took place to fulfil what the Lord had said through the prophet: **23** 'The virgin will conceive and give birth to a son, and they will call him Immanuel' (which means 'God with us').

当约瑟还在考虑要解除他与马利亚的婚约时，一位从神来的使者(天使)向他梦中显现，向他说话。

When Joseph was still thinking about divorcing Mary, a messenger of God (an angel) came to him in a dream and spoke to him.

神的使者对约瑟说的事情其中一件就是：

马利亚所怀的孕是从圣灵来的

One of the things that the messenger of God said to Joseph is:

what was conceived in Mary
was from the Holy Spirit.

这是什么呢？

What does this mean?

它的意思是说：

It means that:

- 玛丽**没有**违反犹太人的律法。

Mary **did NOT** *break the Law of the Jews.*

- 玛丽**不是**淫妇。

Mary **was NOT** *an adulteress.*

- 马利亚**没有**性行为。

Mary **did NOT** have sexual relations.

- 正直的约瑟**没有理由**不娶马利亚为妻。

There was **no reason** for righteous Joseph *not to take Mary to be his wife.*

约瑟在这个时候可以看到了这预言正要**应验**在马利亚身上了！

At this point, Joseph could see that this this prophecy was beginning to **come true** in Mary!

神的使者另外吩咐约瑟两件事情：

The messenger of God commanded Joseph two other things:

a) 要把马利亚 娶过来 (20)

to take Mary home as his wife (20)

b) 要给孩子起名叫 **耶稣** (21)

to name the baby boy **Jesus** (21)

“因他要将自己的百姓从罪恶里救出来”

“Because he will save his people
from their sins”

约瑟对天使在他梦中的显现有怎样的回应呢？

How did Joseph respond to the angel's appearance in his dream?

如果你是约瑟，你会相信和听从神使者的话吗？

*If you were Joseph, would you have **believed and obeyed** the words of the messenger of God?*

太 1:24 约瑟醒了，起来，就遵著主使者的吩咐把妻子娶过来；

Mat 1:24 When Joseph woke up, he did what the angel of the Lord had commanded him and took Mary home as his wife.

太 1:25 只是没有和他同房，等他生了儿子(有古卷: 等他生了头胎的儿子)，**就给他起名叫耶稣。**

Mat 1:25 But he had no union with her until she gave birth to a son. And **he gave him the name Jesus.**

约瑟对天使的话的相信和顺服体现了他神的信心和顺服。

Joseph's faith and obedience to the words of the angel revealed his faith and submission to God.

当后来天使叫约瑟带马利亚和婴孩耶稣往埃及逃生时，约瑟也听从天使的话。
(太 2:13-14)

When the angel later told Joseph to take Mary and the baby Jesus to escape to Egypt, Joseph also obeyed the angel. (Mat 2:13-14)

希律死后，约瑟再次听从天使的话
“把小孩和他母亲带到以色列地去。”
(太 2:19-21)

After Herod's death, Joseph once again
obeyed the angel and **“Take the child
and his mother to the land of Israel.”**
(Mat 2:19-21)

想想看，如果约瑟不相信和听从神的使者的吩咐，将会有有什么结果呢？

Think about it, what would have happened if Joseph did not believe and obey the instructions of God's messenger?

他将无法保护婴孩耶稣不被希律杀害！

He would not be able to protect baby Jesus from being killed by Herod!

约瑟对神的信靠和顺服也使耶稣
按着神对他的计划成长。

Joseph's trust and obedience to
God also enabled Jesus to grow up
according to God's plan for him.

父亲作为一家之主对神的信靠和顺服深深的影响着儿女是否**按照神对他们旨意在成长**。

The trust and obedience of the father as the head of the family deeply influences whether **the children grow up according to God's will for them.**



结语 Conclusion:

圣经虽然没有记载很多关于约瑟的事迹，但是他的确是个**有情有义**的好男人、好爸爸。

Although the Bible does not record much about Joseph's deeds, he was indeed a good man and a good father who was ***balance in love and righteousness.***

他对神的信心和顺从也是值得我们每一位父亲效法的。

His faith and obedience to God is also worthy for all fathers to emulate.

在约瑟和马利亚的带领下，“耶稣的智慧 and 身量，并神和人喜爱他的心，都一齐增长” (路 2:52)。这对父母是多么大的赞许啊！

Under the leadership of Joseph and Mary,
“And Jesus grew in wisdom and stature,
and in favour with God and man” (Luke
2:52). What a praise this is to the parents!

**父亲们，
愿你听到神对你说话**

**Fathers,
may you hear God
speaking to you**