

Sunday, December 8, 2013



Joseph of Bethlehem – Humble Joy

How to use Talk It Over:

Talking through the message during the week helps you and your group turn what God is saying to you into action steps. Begin with the key questions, add any optional scriptures and questions if needed, and then wrap up by deciding on your next steps. You can use this study guide with your small group, your family, or on your own.

Today's Key Idea:

Joseph's story reminds us that life is not about wealth or power, but rather about humbly serving God and others with joy.

Key Questions:

- Reflect on the quote from Adam Hamilton's "The Journey"... how might your life change if you embraced the truth Joseph lived?
"Joseph... left no monuments. We don't have a single recorded word he spoke. His story reminds us that life is not about affirmation, wealth or power, but about humbly serving God and others."
- Even in the darkest moment in Joseph's story, God was at work. Take a look at your own life – can you see God at work, even in your darkest times?
- Joseph was told to call the baby Emmanuel – which means "God with us." In today's world we are called to be Emmanuel for others – a visible sign that God is with them and at work in the darkest circumstances. How are you being or how might you become Emmanuel for others?

Daily Bible Readings:

Read this scripture as a family and begin to reflect on what will lead to contentment in your lives.

- Day 1: Isaiah 9:1-7
- Day 2: Micah 6:6-8
- Day 3: Romans 8:35-38
- Day 4: Deuteronomy 10:12-13
- Day 5: Psalm 95:1-7
- Day 6: Luke 1:39-45