

## HOME FOR CHRISTMAS – PART 2: HOME ALONE

SUNDAY, DECEMBER 12, 2021

*Mary was home alone (presumably but maybe not) when she finds out she's pregnant and her world is turned upside down. When Joseph is home alone after learning Mary is pregnant, God tells him not to be afraid, take a risk and trust everything is going to be okay – and his world is turned upside down. The expectations and dreams of "home" had now been disrupted, but those disruptions did more than just turn Mary & Joseph's world upside down – they turned the entire world upside down, including for people like us.*

### READ MATTHEW 1:18-25

- What is one of the highest of high's you have experienced?
- What is one of the lowest of low's you've experienced?
- What are some cultural expectations that make it challenging to believe the story of the first Christmas?
- What are some ways Mary being found pregnant might have changed the engagement highest of high to the lowest of low's?
- Why would Joseph taking Mary as his wife and naming Jesus have been so risky for Joseph?
- What are the ways you see Joseph being a righteous man in the story?
- What do you think "don't be afraid" means in Joseph's circumstances? What are the circumstances you are experiencing in which you need to hear "don't be afraid"?
- Why do you think Joseph made the decision he made? What decision do you currently face that requires risk and courage?
- How would you describe your relationship to/with Jesus?
- What next step will you take to take the risk & wholeheartedly follow Jesus?

### HOME IS A PLACE OF RISK & TRUST