



# “The Unexpected”

## A Christmas Story



**“The Commitment”**

18 Now the birth of Jesus Christ took place in this way. When his mother Mary had been betrothed to Joseph, before they came together she was found to be with child from the Holy Spirit.

19 And her husband Joseph, being a just man and unwilling to put her to shame, resolved to divorce her quietly.

Matthew 1:18-19, ESV



“Life’s Unexpected Realities”



**But as he considered these things, behold,  
an angel of the Lord appeared to him in a  
dream, saying, “Joseph, son of David, do not  
fear to take Mary as your wife, for that which  
is conceived in her is from the Holy Spirit.”**

**Matthew 1:20, ESV**



1. COMMIT TO GOD'S PURPOSES;  
DECLINE HASTY DECISIONS.



**"She will bear a son, and you shall call his name Jesus, for he will save his people from their sins."**

**Matthew 1:21, ESV**



2. COMMITMENT INVOLVES  
DISCERNMENT BETWEEN OUR PLANS  
AND GOD'S PURPOSE.



“Discernment” generally refers to the supernatural ability to perceive, recognize, and understand spiritual truths or the will of God.



It is often associated with understanding the difference between good and evil, right and wrong, truth and falsehood.



**You can make many plans,  
but the Lord's purpose will prevail.  
Proverb 19:21,NLT**

22 All this took place to fulfill what the Lord had spoken by the prophet:

23 "Behold, the virgin shall conceive and bear a son, and they shall call his name Immanuel" (which means, God with us).

Matthew 1:22-23, ESV



3. COMMITMENT REQUIRES  
DETERMINATION TO TRUST THE  
PROMISE AND THE PROCESS.

24 When Joseph woke from sleep, he did as the angel of the Lord commanded him: he took his wife, 25 but knew her not until she had given birth to a son. And he called his name Jesus.

Matthew 1:24-25, ESV