



Fear of What People Think About Me

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¹⁸ 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. ¹⁹ Joseph, to whom she was engaged, was a righteous man and did not want to disgrace her publicly, so he decided to break the engagement quietly. ²⁰ 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. ²¹ And she will have a son, and you are to name him Jesus, for he will save his people from their sins.”

Matthew 1:18-21 NLT

1. Pleasing God often means disappointing people

- Focusing on what people think about you is the quickest way to forget what God thinks about you
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2. Living to please God

- Living to please God means you will be criticized
- Extraordinary acts of God often start with ordinary acts of obedience

When Joseph woke up, he did as the angel of the Lord commanded and took Mary as his wife. **Matthew 1:24** NLT

Next Steps:

- Commit to change my focus so that I am most concerned about what God wants me to do, not what people think
- Commit to obey God even when people in my life find my decisions disappointing
- Commit to focus on the simple acts of obedience that God is directing me to do
- Commit to attend the Christmas Eve service
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