

The Family God Gave Jesus:
Father Joseph- “What Can I Give Him?”

Matthew 1:18-25

*In the Family of God we need people who will
mirror the love of the Father.*

What did Joseph give Jesus?

1. A heritage (v1, 20)

2. An example (v18-25)

- Just

- Gracious

- Faithful

FOR FURTHER THOUGHT:

1. What physical traits did you get from your father? Did you get any of his temperament or tendencies? What's the best thing your father passed on to you?
2. Read Matthew 1:18-19. Note the following detail:
 - A. "betrothed" = pledged to be married
 - B. "before they came together" = before the actual marriage
 - C. "divorce her quietly" = the 3 options open to Joseph were
 - i. Stoning
 - ii. Public divorce to end betrothal
 - iii. Quiet divorce before 2 or 3 witnesses
 - D. What does Joseph's choice of option 3 tell you about his character?
3. When did God tell Joseph what was happening with Mary (Mt 1:20-21)? Why do you think He didn't tell him sooner?
4. We saw last week that Mary went to visit Elizabeth right after Gabriel told her she would bear the Messiah (Luke 1:39), and that she stayed 3 months before returning to Nazareth (Luke 1:56). Since Joseph hadn't yet been told by God what is happening, how might you imagine Joseph responding to Mary's explanation of her pregnancy?
5. What is Joseph's response to the dream (v24)? What does that tell you about his character?
6. Matthew tells us that Joseph had no union with her until after Jesus was born. Why would he include that detail?
7. Which of Joseph's traits do you see as most important in a father? Why?
8. Are there traits in Joseph that you would like to characterize you more? As you pray for one another, zero in on those traits.