

Sunday, December 2 & 3, 2017



## HOPE IS IN THE AIR

Interruptions can stir fear and anxiety. They steal our sleep and can pick pocket our joy. They can cause us to question God and we either draw near or walk away from Him.

**"Any doubt of the Father's love disappeared the night God was wrapped in barnyard towels so the hay wouldn't scratch his back." – Max Lucado**

## GOD TRIUMPHED

### In Mary's story...

- Mary knew right away that it was worth it all. The inn had no place for her son and that was ok. He would find a place in people's hearts. They weren't anywhere near home at the birth. The fact is, Jesus was even further.
- Through a tough pregnancy, an imposed census, an untimely trip and an overcrowded inn, God triumphed!
- In spite of the chaos, CHRIST CAME.

### In Matthew's genealogy...

- We don't often mention the lineage of Jesus in context with His birth.
- Matthew 1:2-3, 5-6, 16-17 (NKJV) <sup>2</sup> Abraham begot Isaac, Isaac begot Jacob, and Jacob begot Judah and his brothers. <sup>3</sup> Judah begot Perez and Zerah by Tamar, Perez begot Hezron, and Hezron begot Ram...<sup>5</sup> Salmon begot Boaz by Rahab, Boaz begot Obed by Ruth, Obed begot Jesse, <sup>6</sup> and Jesse begot David the king. David the king begot Solomon by her who had been the wife of Uriah...<sup>16</sup> And Jacob begot Joseph the husband of Mary, of whom was born Jesus who is called Christ. <sup>17</sup> So all the generations from Abraham to David are fourteen generations, from David until the captivity in Babylon are fourteen generations, and from the captivity in Babylon until the Christ are fourteen generations.

CHAOS cannot keep CHRIST out of this world.

- Why does Matthew mention all these people before he mentions Joseph and Mary? He is making a point. The Messiah was born not because of His ancestors, but in spite of them.
- Colossians 1:16-17 (MSG) *For everything, absolutely everything, above and below, visible and invisible, rank after rank after rank of angels— everything got started in him and finds its purpose in him. He was there before any of it came into existence and holds it all together right up to this moment.*

You cannot face a CRISIS if you don't face GOD FIRST.

Philippians 4:6-7 (TLB) <sup>6</sup> *Don't worry about anything; instead, pray about everything; tell God your needs, and don't forget to thank him for his answers.* <sup>7</sup> *If you do this, you will experience God's peace, which is far more wonderful than the human mind can understand. His peace will keep your thoughts and your hearts quiet and at rest as you trust in Christ Jesus.*

When EVERYTHING SHAKES, God remains UNSHAKEN.

### In David's prayer journal he wrote...

Psalm 11:3-4 (NCV) <sup>3</sup> *When the foundations for good collapse, what can good people do?* <sup>4</sup> *The Lord is in his holy temple; the Lord sits on his throne in heaven. He sees what people do; he keeps his eye on them.*

## Life Groups

### Scriptures that Relate:

Monday: Matthew 1  
Tuesday: Matthew 2

Wednesday: Matthew 3  
Thursday: Matthew 4

Friday: Matthew 5  
Saturday: Matthew 6

### Talk it Over:

1. What interruptions are happening in your world right now?
2. **What stands out to you about Mary's story?**
3. What difference does Christ make in a crisis?
4. What does *God remains unshaken* mean to your life?
5. Share a story of tragedy to triumph.