



For the difficult days:

- Just because things are not right in your life, doesn't mean things cannot be well in your soul.
- If things aren't good, God's not done.

This is how Jesus the Messiah was born. His mother, Mary, was engaged to be married to Joseph.... Matthew 1:18a (NLT)

...But before the marriage took place, while she was still a virgin, she became pregnant through the power of the Holy Spirit.
Matthew 1:18b (NLT)

Joseph, her fiancé, was a good man and did not want to disgrace her publicly, so he decided to break the engagement quietly.
Matthew 1:19 (NLT)

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. Matthew 1:20 (NLT)

For the child within her was conceived by the Holy Spirit. And she will have a son, and you are to name him Jesus, for he will save his people from their sins." Matthew 1:20-21 (NLT)

- God shines His light on the situation and anchors the soul of Joseph to Himself.

...we who have fled to him for refuge can have great confidence as we hold to the hope that lies before us. This hope is a strong and trustworthy anchor for our souls. It leads us through the curtain into God's inner sanctuary.
Hebrews 6:18-19 (NLT)

God is our refuge and strength, always ready to help in times of trouble.
Psalm 46:1(NLT)

And we know that God causes everything to work together for the good of those who love God and are called according to his purpose for them.

Romans 8:28 (NLT)

How are things going?:

- God is with me.

Those who forget God have no hope... Job 8:11 (TLB)

- God is my safe place.

The LORD is a shelter for the oppressed, a refuge in times of trouble.

Psalm 9:9 (NLT)

- If it's not good, God's not done.

- Things are well in my soul.

Have Questions? Text them to: (559)464-5754

Here are some questions that can be used in Connection Groups:

These questions also work well for personal time with God.

- Why is Hope important in our lives?
- If you were to talk to Joseph just after he discovered Mary was pregnant, and you were to ask "How are things going?", what do you think Joseph would have said? How would you have felt if you were Joseph?
- Dave mentioned: "Just because things are not right in your life, doesn't mean things cannot be well in your soul". What does that mean to you? How does that bring strength during difficult times?
- Read Hebrews 6:18-19, how is the hope that is mentioned an anchor for our souls? What does that mean to you? Do you experience this?
- Under the sub-heading: "How are things going?", how does knowing these things affect our perspective?
- What does it mean for God to be your safe place?
- Are things well in your soul today?

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