

sermon study guide

Speaker: Pastor Kent Priebe

Date: December 7 / 8, 2019

Sermon Title: Revealing Jesus: Saviour – Matthew Series: Part 2

PURSUE RELATIONSHIP: Opportunities to connect and pray as a group

1. What is one thing you are looking forward to in this season?
2. Tell of a time when an expectation you had was delayed or frustrated.

PURSUE GOD: Time that is devoted to the Word of God

Read Matthew 1:18-25

3. How would you feel in Joseph's place in verse 19? In verses 20-21? What would you say to family and friends? To God?
4. Pastor Kent said that in these verses we hear both bad news and good news. How does verse 21 draw out both bad news and good news?

PURSUE MISSION: Seek to be the community of God's people in your community

Read Matthew 15:18 and Romans 7:21-24

5. *What are some incorrect views of sin in our culture, in the church, and even in ourselves? What do these Scriptures tell us about sin?*

Read John 14:6

6. *How would you respond to someone who does not want to believe that there is only one, not many, ways to experience salvation? What is it about Jesus that makes him the only way?*

For Personal Reflection/Prayer:

What does it mean to you that Jesus has saved you from your sin?

THE WORD (NIV)

Matthew 1:18-25

¹⁸ This is how the birth of Jesus the Messiah came about: His mother Mary was pledged to be married to Joseph, but before they came together, she was found to be pregnant through the Holy Spirit. ¹⁹ Because Joseph her husband was faithful to the law, and yet did not want to expose her to public disgrace, he had in mind to divorce her quietly.

²⁰ But after he had considered this, an angel of the Lord appeared to him in a dream and said, "Joseph son of David, do not be afraid to take Mary home as your wife, because what is conceived in her is from the Holy Spirit. ²¹ She will give birth to a son, and you are to give him the name Jesus, because he will save his people from their sins."

²² All this took place to fulfill what the Lord had said through the prophet: ²³ "The virgin will conceive and give birth to a son, and they will call him Immanuel" (which means "God with us").

²⁴ When Joseph woke up, he did what the angel of the Lord had commanded him and took Mary home as his wife. ²⁵ But he did not consummate their marriage until she gave birth to a son. And he gave him the name Jesus.

Matthew 15:18

But the things that come out of a person's mouth come from the heart, and these defile them.

Romans 7:21-24

²¹ So I find this law at work: Although I want to do good, evil is right there with me. ²² For in my inner being I delight in God's law; ²³ but I see another law at work in me, waging war against the law of my mind and making me a prisoner of the law of sin at work within me. ²⁴ What a wretched man I am! Who will rescue me from this body that is subject to death?

John 14:6

Jesus answered, "I am the way and the truth and the life. No one comes to the Father except through me.

This week's writers: Jared Harrison, Edi Dygert, Sandi Somers, David McMillin, Deb Matiko

sermon study summary

Revealing Jesus: Saviour

Matthew 1:18-25

Pastor Kent Priebe

In this second week of Advent, we continue in anticipation of celebrating Jesus' birth. In a sense, we pull ourselves back into history and walk in the shoes of the people of Israel who were longing for a Savior and believed the prophecy that a Messiah was coming. In the previous Matthew sermon, we looked at Jesus' genealogy. This gave us a "Google Maps" satellite view of history up until Jesus. Verses 18-25 drop(s) us down to a street-level view, to see how Jesus came to be part of the human race. These verses show us that the Bible is not recording mythology but written in real life. It is in real life / ordinary life that Jesus leaves heaven, God, and the company of Angels to come into human history.

In this section of Scripture (18-25) we see two sides of the Gospel message: One side is bad news and one side is good news. Both the good news and bad news are revealed in verse 21: "She will give birth to a son, and you are to give him the name Jesus because he will save his people from their sins." Let's start with the bad news first. The bad news is that all of humankind from the beginning of the world has one big dilemma, one big problem from which no one is exempt: Sin. Some choose to deny the existence of sin in themselves and others. Others want to blame God for the problem of sin in the world. But the reality is that all the evil in the world comes from the hearts of humankind (Matthew 15:18; Romans 7:21-24). This is the bad news of the Gospel: Humankind is broken – there is something deeply wrong in us, and we are more sinful than we can imagine.

Now for the good news! The good news of the Gospel is that even though we are more sinful than we can imagine, we are also more loved than we can ever imagine, and God's love for us caused him to send us a Savior. Jesus came to save us from our sin. He says, "I am the way and the truth and the life. No one comes to the Father except through me" (John 14:6). These words are exclusive, limiting, and definitive. Jesus didn't come to show us how to get to God – Jesus came to show us what God would do to get to us! His name, "Immanuel", shows that God has come to live with us. He has come to heal the brokenness that separates us from our Creator. We don't need to earn his favour, love, or affection. He loves us and sent his Son to us so that we could be restored to a loving relationship with him forever.