



Jesus, Joseph & Mary

How The Holy Family Models Healthy Families

PART 1

The Holy Family



The *Holy Spirit* inspired the Gospel writers to include character sketches of the Holy Family to model what healthy families look like.

Luke 1:5-17

In the time of Herod king of Judea there was a priest named Zechariah, who belonged to the priestly division of Abijah; his wife Elizabeth was also a descendant of Aaron. Both of them were righteous in God's sight, observing all the Lord's commands and decrees blamelessly. But they were childless because Elizabeth was unable to conceive, and they were both very old.



Luke 1:5-17

Once when Zechariah's division was on duty and he was serving as priest before God, he was chosen by lot, according to the custom of the priesthood, to go into the temple of the Lord and burn incense. When it was time to burn the incense, all the assembled worshipers were praying outside. Then an angel of the Lord appeared to him, standing at...the altar of incense.



Luke 1:5-17

When Zechariah saw him, he was startled and gripped with fear. But the angel said to him: "Do not be afraid, Zechariah; your prayer has been heard. Your wife Elizabeth will bear you a son, and you are to call him John. He will be a joy and delight to you, and many will rejoice because of his birth, for he will be great in the sight of the Lord.



Luke 1:5-17

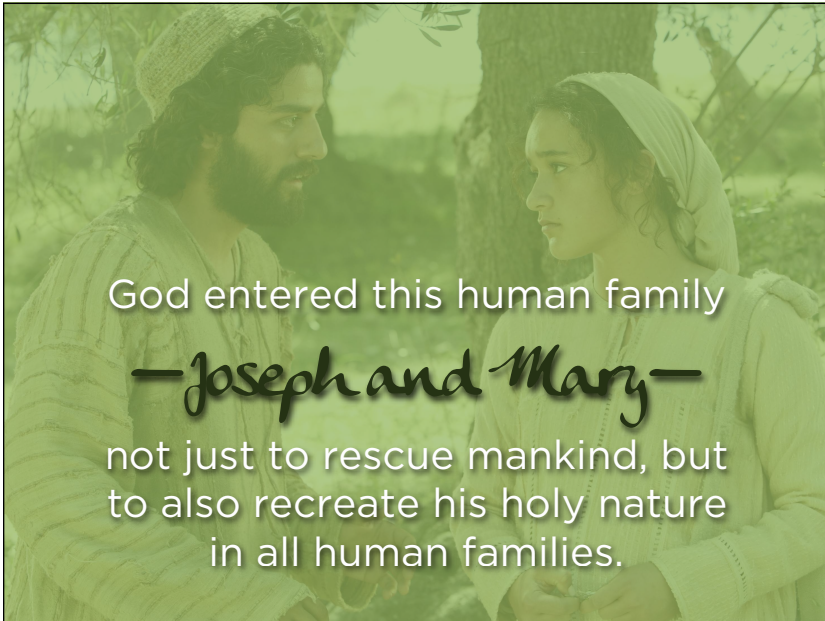
"He is never to take wine or other fermented drink, and he will be filled with the Holy Spirit even before he is born. He will bring back many of the people of Israel to their God. And he will go on before the Lord, in the spirit and power of Elijah, to turn the hearts of the parents to their children and the disobedient to the wisdom of the righteous—to make ready a people prepared for the Lord."

vs. 17

“To turn the hearts of the parents
to their children.”

Malachi 4:7

“And the hearts of the children
to their parents.”



God entered this human family

—*Joseph and Mary*—

not just to rescue mankind, but
to also recreate his holy nature
in all human families.



The *Holy* Trinity—The *Holy* Family

1. Unconditional **Love**
2. Unbreakable **Commitment**
3. Unstoppable **Mission**

Missional Families

Mission: To mirror God's image



Genesis 1:26-27

“Let us make man in our image, in our likeness, and let them rule over...all the earth, and over all the creatures... So God created man in his own image, in the image of God he created them; male and female he created them.”

Missional Families

Mission: To multiply a Godly heritage



Genesis 1:28

“Be fruitful and increase in number; fill the earth.”

Psalms 78:5-7

“God established his law and commanded our ancestors to teach their children, so the next generation would know them, even the children yet to be born, and they in turn would tell their children. Then they would put their trust in God and would not forget his deeds, but would keep his commands.”

Missional Families

Mission: To manage God's creation



Genesis 1:28
“Fill the earth and subdue it.”

Missional Families

Mission: To model the message of redemption



Ephesians 5-6


5:33 ...a husband must love his wife as Christ loved the church; the wife must respect her husband as she respects Christ.

6:1-3 ...children must obey their parents as a fulfillment of the Ten Commandments and as a facilitator of divine blessing.

6:4 ...parents must learn to redemptively discipline the children.

Ephesians 5:31

“This is all pretty mysterious, but it is a perfect illustration of the way Christ lovingly redeemed his church.”



The Practice of Holiness

H **Hug a lot**—learn to express affection early and often!

O **Overcome the temptation to quit**—determine not to give up!

L **Listen more than you speak**—seek to understand more than to be understood!

Y **You be the answer**—become God’s agent for your family’s health and holiness!



CHRISTMAS

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