



ADVENT 2019

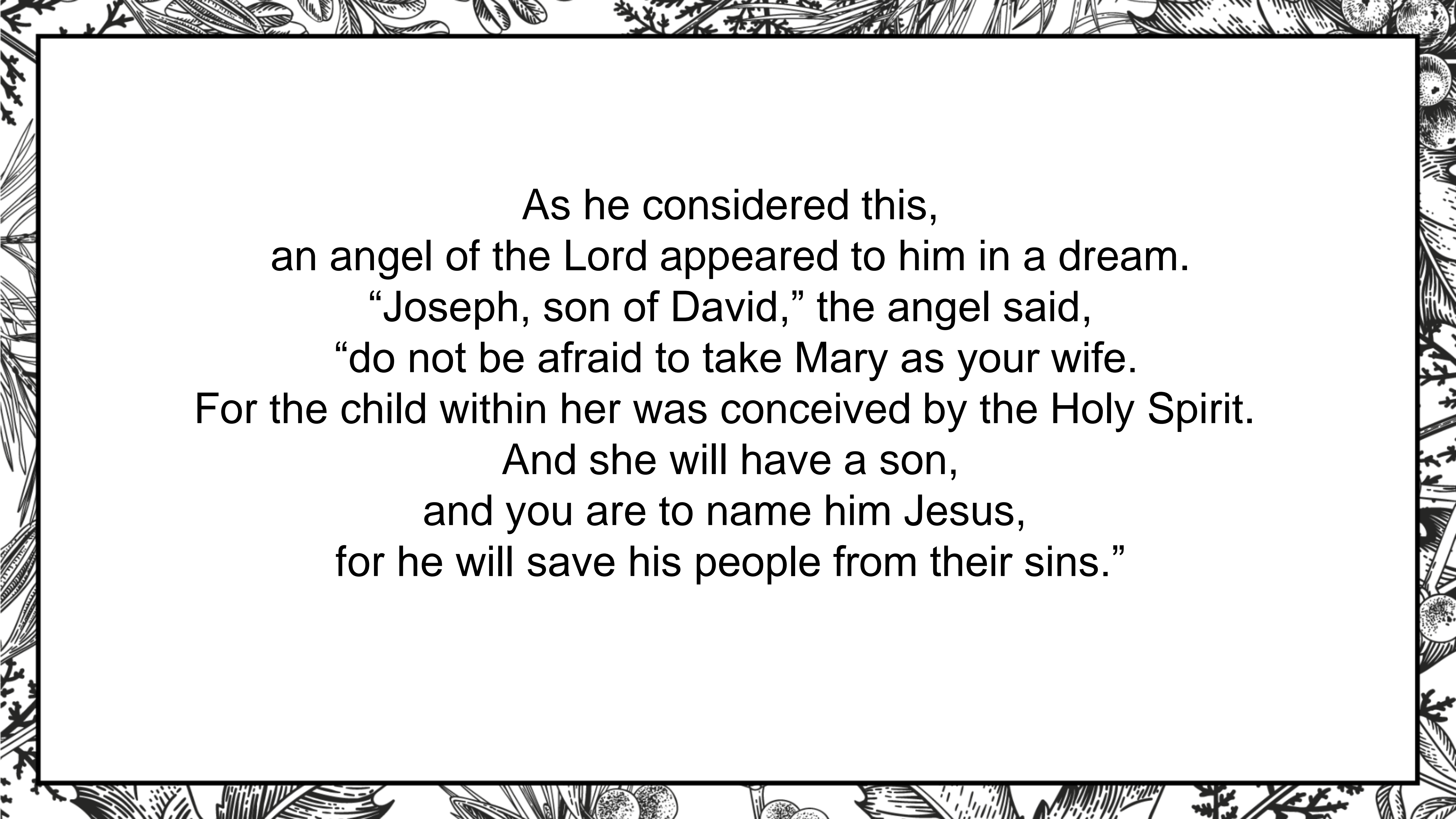
THE
INVITATION

SAYING YES TO THE HOLY SPIRIT

Experiencing God's Peace like Joseph

MATTHEW 1:18-25 (NLT)

This is how Jesus the Messiah was born. His mother, Mary, was engaged to be married to Joseph. But before the marriage took place, while she was still a virgin, she became pregnant through the power of the Holy Spirit. Joseph, to whom she was engaged, was a righteous man and did not want to disgrace her publicly, so he decided to break the engagement quietly.



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.
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.”



All of this occurred to fulfill the Lord's message through his prophet:

“Look! The virgin will conceive a child!
She will give birth to a son,
and they will call him Immanuel,
which means ‘God is with us.’”

When Joseph woke up, he did as the angel of the Lord commanded and took Mary as his wife.
But he did not have sexual relations with her until her son was born.
And Joseph named him Jesus.

- **When God invites us into a new challenging situation, we usually have 3 options:**
 - *Rebellion*
 - *Resignation*
 - *Consent*

The attitude to aim for is consent. Compared with resignation, consent leads to a completely different interior attitude. We say yes to a situation we initially saw as negative, because we realize something positive may arise from it. This hints at hope.

- *Interior Freedom*, Jacques Philippe



In what way is the Holy Spirit inviting you to peace today?



Philippians 4:6-7

Don't worry about anything;
instead, pray about everything.

Tell God what you need,
and thank him for all he has done.

Then you will experience God's peace,
which exceeds anything we can understand.
His peace will guard your hearts and minds
as you live in Christ Jesus.



What peace is God inviting you into?

