

The Chapel Family Bible Reading Program December 7th – December 12th
Doing Life Together – Envision 2020

MONDAY:

KEY VERSE: Matthew 1:18-25

OBSERVATION: The name of the first child is chosen with enormous care over nine months. By the time you come to number four you are happy to call them the first name that pops into your mind as you drive to the hospital. God took plenty of time to think about the name he would call his Son. And when the time for the birth arrived God was very specific. He didn't leave it to Joseph to choose the name as would normally have been the custom.

TUESDAY:

KEY VERSE: Matthew 1:18-25

OBSERVATION: Jesus is a JOYFUL name. Christians love to say it. It brings joy to our hearts. The name Jesus appears in the New Testament 1,274 times. It is the favorite term for our Lord. Of all the names and titles that are given to Christ the one most loved by his followers is the joyful name of Jesus. Our children can say the name of Jesus almost as soon as they can say mommy and daddy. Jesus is a joyful name that fits this joyful season.

WEDNESDAY:

KEY VERSE: Matthew 1:18-25

OBSERVATION: Jesus is an ENDURING name. Even though our Lord was born in obscurity over 2000 years ago and died like a criminal at the age of 33 his name is the most well-known in world history. Scripture tells us that rather than fading away the name of Jesus will increase in influence until every tribe on earth has heard about it and there is not a people group on the planet that do not have a church dedicated to Jesus.

THURSDAY:

KEY VERSE: Matthew 1:18-25

OBSERVATION: Jesus is a SIGNIFICANT name. The name Jesus describes the purpose of his coming. The New Testament name Jesus is equivalent to the Old Testament name Joshua, which means "God saves." The Jewish way of saying Jesus is Yeshua, which sounds very like Joshua. Jesus was a common name in the first century, rather like the name John is today. Josephus, the Jewish historian, mentions 12 people called Jesus. It is rather wonderful that God would choose an ordinary name and fill it with extraordinary meaning.

FRIDAY:

KEY VERSE: Matthew 1:18-25

OBSERVATION: Jesus is an UNEQUALED name. It is because Jesus is an unequalled name that we need to treat it with enormous respect. The Third Commandment says, "You shall not misuse the name of the Lord your God, for the Lord will not hold anyone guiltless who misuses his name." (Exodus 20:7)

SATURDAY:

KEY VERSE: Matthew 1:18-25

OBSERVATION: Jesus is a SAVING name. When the angel said to Joseph, "You are to give him the name Jesus" he added a qualifying explanation. "Because he will save his people from their sins." (Matthew 1:21) This promise that he will save his people from their sins does not mean primarily that Jesus will save us from hell in the future. It means Jesus wants to deliver us from our besetting sins now.