

LifeGroup Study SheetDec 4th and 7th 2025 – No Room: Compromise

This guide is designed to give helpful hints in preparing for your group discussion.

Quick Review

Look back from your sermon notes – Was there anything that particularly challenged you from this sermon? Anything you didn't understand, agree with or connect with?

Introduction

When you think of Christmas, what emotions come up first—joy, pressure, nostalgia, stress? How do those emotions affect your ability to focus on Jesus and make room for Him?

Digging In

Question 1: Read Matthew 1:18-25. Pastor Jeff talks about Joseph not making room for compromise in the Christmas story. We learn about **Joseph's character** in **verses 18-19**. What stands out to you about Joseph's response to Mary's pregnancy? Imagine how Joseph would have felt about learning this information. This is **BEFORE** the angel tells him about God's plan through Mary and the Holy Spirit. How does your character reveal itself when God's plans don't match your expectations? How do you handle disappointment with grace, humility and compassion?

Question 2: Read Matthew 1:20-21. The second thing we notice is **Joseph does not compromise his calling**. What do you think Joseph felt when he heard God's plan? What were the potential "consequences" if Joseph decided to follow through on God's calling for him? Socially, relationally, personally? Having a pregnant fiancé and people knew was not your child! His family and friends' thoughts on the situation? How do you sometime question God's calling in your life when you don't expect it to turn out a certain way? How does Joseph's obedience through these strange circumstances challenge you to stay true God's calling in your life?

Question 3: Read Matthew 1:22-25. We also see **Joseph does not compromise in his commitment!** What immediately stands out to you about Joseph's immediate obedience? Why don't you think he hesitated or questioned any of it? Joseph had to accept that others would misunderstand him or even lose his "public" reputation to be committed to God's plan. Joseph follows through and legally names Jesus his son! What does this teach you about obedience and commitment even when you don't fully understand the bigger picture?

Praise / Prayer Requests

Pray for your group with these things in mind:

Adoration – How can I praise God for what this teaches me?

Confession – What sin can I confess because of what this teaches me?

Thanksgiving – How can I thank God for what Jesus has done?

Supplication – What do I need to ask of God in order to grow in light of this?