



## Hill Cliffe Study Guide Sunday 5 December 2021

### Advent 2 – Family Matthew 1.18-25

#### Please read Matthew 1.18-25

1. Mary was pregnant and Jesus was about to be born into a family. What do we know about this family's circumstances - what might life have been like for them?
2. What does the choice of this family as Jesus' family tell us about God?

*Matthew 1. 21 She will give birth to a son, and you are to give him the name Jesus, (meaning The Lord Saves) because he will save his people from their sins.'*

3. How do you think Joseph and Mary might have prepared themselves to become the earthly parents of Jesus (The Saviour) in the months before Jesus was born?

*Matthew 1. 22 All this took place to fulfil 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' [Isaiah 7.14] (which means 'God with us').*

4. The one to be called Jesus, (who would save his people from their sins), was also described as Immanuel, meaning God with us. What did these two names reveal about Jesus that was both surprising and necessary?

*Mary and Joseph discovered that as they responded to God by faith and welcomed Jesus into their family, God was welcoming them into His family.*

5. What does this tell us about God's view of family?
6. Why is this relevant for us too?

*Jesus became a real living baby in Mary's womb, and in due course, became a tiny vulnerable baby reliant on his parents when he was born. Jesus chose to presence himself with his earthly family in this way.*

7. What does this tell us about Jesus?

*Jesus lived, died, was resurrected, and ascended to the Father over 2000 years ago.*

8. How is He present with us now?
9. How might we choose to be more present with Him?