

# Connections

## Annunciation to Joseph (Matthew 1:18-25)

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Below are connections to the story that we might make when we listen to it in light of our own life experience.

A prayer suggestion:

1. Tell the story to yourself, picturing it in your mind's eye.
2. Reflect on these possible connections to your life.
3. Then consider if there is something you want to say to God in response.
4. Listen for what God might be saying to you through the story.

- ❖ Joseph has a dream that changed his mind about what he was going to do. The story might be inviting you to recall a dream that gave you direction in life, or that made a difference in what you did.
- ❖ An angel—a messenger from God—talks to Joseph in a dream. Have you ever felt like God was sending you a message through a dream? What other ways, if any, have you experienced messages from God?
- ❖ This story involves issues around marriage, divorce, and pregnancy outside marriage. Consider how any of these relational dynamics relate to your life experience.
- ❖ Jesus' name literally means "God saves." Isaiah said his name would be Emmanuel, which means "God is with us." Have you ever felt in your heart that God saves, or that God is with you?