

## Royal Redeemer CGS Community Discussion Guide

Based on the sermon for December 22 + 23, 2018:  
*When have you done the wrong thing for the right reason?*



**(For use as an opening Devotion, use only the highlighted portion)**

- **Begin by sharing a high and/or a low from your week**

- **Connect**

- o Share a time when you did the wrong thing (i.e. you did not do the thing you were supposed to do) for the right reason. How were you treated by the person you disobeyed? Like George from the film, were there consequences for your action?

- **Grow** (read this passage aloud and listen for words or phrases that speak into your life now)

*This is how the birth of Jesus the Messiah came about: His mother Mary was pledged to be married to Joseph, but before they came together, she was found to be pregnant through the Holy Spirit. 19 Because Joseph her husband was faithful to the law, and yet did not want to expose her to public disgrace, he had in mind to divorce her quietly.*

*20 But after he had considered this, an angel of the Lord appeared to him in a dream and said, "Joseph son of David, do not be afraid to take Mary home as your wife, because what is conceived in her is from the Holy Spirit. 21 She will give birth to a son, and you are to give him the name Jesus, because he will save his people from their sins."*

*22 All this took place to fulfill 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" (which means "God with us").*

*24 When Joseph woke up, he did what the angel of the Lord had commanded him and took Mary home as his wife. 25 But he did not consummate their marriage until she gave birth to a son. And he gave him the name Jesus.*

### **Matthew 1:18-25**

- o Share any words or phrases that speak into your life today.
- o Verse 18 and 1:1 use the same Greek word that is translated as "genealogy" and "birth." The Greek word is *genesis*. Where else does the word Genesis appear in the Bible? Why do you think Matthew wants to begin the story of Jesus by connecting it to the origin stories of humanity in Genesis?
- o The name Jesus means "Yahweh saves." In verse 21 the angel says that Jesus will save his people from their sins. Who are "his people" in this context? Read chapter Matthew 28:18. How does Jesus expand the Kingdom of "his people" now?
- o Imagine that you are Joseph, how would you have reacted to the angel appearing in a dream? Why?
- o How does God speak to us today?

- **Serve**

Christmas Miracle Gift - Throughout the month of December, you will have the opportunity to celebrate Jesus' birthday by bringing your Christmas Miracle offering to support a local family (with two young children) who became homeless after a death in the family, and to open the door to vocational training and work for a young woman in Cincinnati. Together, we can create an unexpected miracle for others at Christmas. Please make checks to Royal Redeemer with the note "Christmas Miracle Offering". You can also contribute through PayPal <https://goo.gl/o7Gpfe>

- **End with Prayer and the Lord's Prayer**