

Below are follow up questions for you to consider related to today's message *Joseph's Story*; Matthew 1:18-25.

## Discussion Questions:

1. Did you know Athanasius' story? Do you have your own heroes from church history?
2. Why do we benefit from learning the true stories of Christians who lived in times and places different from our own?
3. Was it really worth Athanasius' whole life to fight over one letter and the difference between Jesus being god-like and being truly God? Why or why not?
4. What does the name "Jesus" mean? How does he fulfill this name?
5. What does the name "Immanuel" mean? How does he fulfill this name?
6. Why does the world need a deliverer who is both human and divine?
7. If you had been Joseph, what do you think you would have done?
8. How do you see courage in Athanasius' life? In Joseph's?
9. Where do you find yourself most in need of courage?
10. How does a fresh "seeing" of Jesus impart courage to face down danger and love and serve Jesus? When have you seen this happen in your life?

## Quotes from the Message:

### Arius

*Homoi + ousian* = of similar substance as God. Jesus is God-like.

### Athanasius

*Homo + ousian* = of the same substance as God. Jesus is God.

"God's response to our rebellion was to give us himself.

He is the great redeeming, transforming gift.

He is the rescue.

He is the forgiveness.

He is the restoration.

He is life, hope, peace, and security.

There is no salvation apart from him.

There is no deliverance from the presence and power of sin apart from him.

There is no restored relationship with God apart from him.

There is no end to sickness and suffering apart from him.

There is no defeat of death apart from him.

There simply is no such thing as redeeming grace, and all that it means apart from the willingness of God to give us himself in the person of the Messiah, Jesus." - Paul Tripp, *O Come Let Us Adore Him*

## Songs from Sunday ([Spotify Playlist](#)):

Born Is the King (It's Christmas) - Matt Crocker and Scott Ligertwood

O Come All Ye Faithful - C. Frederick Oakley, David LaChance Jr., and John Francis Wade

In God We Trust - Ben Fielding, Eric Liljero, and Reuben Morgan

Be Thou My Vision - St. Dallan Forgaill and Eleanor Hull (translator)

Emmanuel (Hope of Heaven) - Jeff Pardo, Seth Condrey, and Steve Fee

Angels We Have Heard on High - James Chadwick and Edward Barnes

Worship Leader: Luis Villalta

To watch or listen to the message audio and read the bulletin, [click here](#). To watch the announcements, [click here](#).

**Next week:** The Wise Men's Story; Matthew 2:1-12