

# “Hearing God in Times of Personal Hurt”

St. Andrew’s Church \* Matt. 1:18-25 \* Dec. 19, 2004

## When facing a time of personal hurt...

### 1. Seek to do what’s right in GOD’S EYES.

**Matthew 1:19** - Because Joseph her husband was a righteous man and did not want to expose her to public disgrace, he had in mind to divorce her quietly.

**Ephesians 5:10** - ... find out what pleases the Lord.

**1 Thessalonians 4:1** ...we instructed you how to live in order to please God...

Q: WWJD?

A: WWPG

WHATEVER WOULD PLEASE GOD

### 2. Seek the best for the one who OFFENDS you.

**Matthew 1: 19** – Joseph... did not want to expose her to public disgrace, he had in mind to divorce her quietly.

**1 Cor 13:5, 7 (NLT)** - ... Love is not irritable, and it keeps no record of when it has been wronged...<sup>7</sup> Love never gives up, never loses faith, is always hopeful, and endures through every circumstance.

**Romans 12:21 (NLT)** - Don’t let evil get the best of you, but conquer evil by doing good.

**Micah 6:8 (NLT)** - ...the LORD has already told you what is good, and this is what he requires: to do what is right, to love mercy, and to walk humbly with your God.

### 3. Take TIME TO THINK before you respond.

**Matthew 1:20a** - But after he had considered this, an angel of the Lord appeared to him in a dream...

**Proverbs 13:16 (NLT)** - Wise people think before they act; fools don’t and even brag about it!

**Proverbs 19:2b** (NCV) If you act too quickly, you might make a mistake.

**Matthew 1:20b, 21** – (the angel 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...<sup>21</sup> 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.”

Translation key: Unless noted, all verses are from the New International Version; NLT = New Living Translation; NCV = New Century Version.