

Welcome & Announcements

Silent Prayer

*Call to Worship | Psalm 130

Pastor: Out of the depths I cry to you, O LORD! O Lord, hear my voice!

People: Let your ears be attentive to the voice of my pleas for mercy!

Pastor: If you, O LORD, should mark iniquities, O Lord, who could stand?

People: But with you there is forgiveness, that you may be feared.

Pastor: I wait for the LORD, my soul waits, and in his word I hope;

People: my soul waits for the LORD more than watchmen for the morning, more than watchmen for the morning.

Pastor: O Israel, hope in the LORD! For with the LORD there is steadfast love, and with him is plentiful redemption.

People: And he will redeem Israel from all his iniquities.

*Prayer of Adoration

*Hymn 195 | Joy to the World! The Lord Is Come

*God's Covenant Faithfulness | Isaiah 7:1-8:8

Tithes and Offerings [Venmo: @Cornerstone-OPC]

Hymn 203 | Hark! the Herald Angels Sing

Prayer of Dedication

Preaching of the Word

Sermon Text | Matthew 1:18-25

Sermon Title | Would It Matter If Jesus Had a Biological Dad Named Larry?

*Hymn 208 | O Come, All Ye Faithful

*Confession of Faith | Heidelberg Catechism 15-17

Q. 15: What sort of a mediator and deliverer must we seek for?

A. 15: For one who is very man, and perfectly righteous; and yet more powerful than all creatures; that is, one who is also very God.

Q. 16: Why must He be very man, and also perfectly righteous?

A. 16: Because the justice of God requires that the same human nature which hath sinned, should likewise make satisfaction for sin; and one, who is himself a sinner, cannot satisfy for others.

Q. 17: Why must He in one person be also very God?

A. 17: That He might by the power of His Godhead sustain in His human nature the burden of God's wrath; and might obtain for, and restore to us, righteousness and life.

*Benediction

*Hymn 735 | Gloria Patri

Glory be to the Father, and to the Son, and to the Holy Ghost; as it was in the beginning, is now, and ever shall be, world without end. Amen, amen.

WOULD IT MATTER IF JESUS HAD A BIOLOGICAL DAD NAMED LARRY?

Matthew 1:18-25

I. Christ's arrival was via supernatural begetting (vv. 18-20, 24-25).

II. Christ's arrival was unto supernatural blessing (vv. 21-23).

QUESTIONS FOR FAMILY WORSHIP

1. Why does Matthew sense the need to explain how Jesus was conceived in Mary's womb? What in the genealogy (particularly in v. 16) would lead him to give further explanation in our text?
2. How are normal babies conceived? How was Jesus conceived in Mary? How does Matthew explain this both negatively and positively?
3. Why does it matter that Mary was a virgin? Or does it matter?
4. What does the name Jesus mean? What exactly will He save His people from?
5. How does Matthew relate Christ's supernatural conception to the supernatural salvation he came to bring? How does the story of Ahaz and the prophesy in Isaiah 7 help us to understand this?

QUESTIONS FOR PRIVATE REFLECTION

1. Is the virgin birth merely one of many acceptable theories of the incarnation? Why, or why not?
2. Read through Matthew 1:18-25 and Luke 1:26-38. Is there any possible way of understanding these texts as teaching anything other than the virgin conception of Christ?
3. Is the birth of Christ as precious to me as His death and resurrection? Why ought it to be?

Lord's Day Worship

CORNERSTONE PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH

"...built on the foundation of the apostles and prophets,
Christ Jesus himself being the cornerstone."

– Ephesians 2:20

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