

This Week's Fighter Verse: Feed Your Soul by
Memorizing Scripture! Each week's '*Fighter Verse*' is meant to help you "fight the good fight" of faith. Memorize it and use it for the good of your soul!

Matthew 1:21 (ESV)

²¹ She will bear a son, and you shall call his name Jesus, for he will save his people from their sins."



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WOMEN'S WORKSHOP 2024

Friday, January 19 | 4:30 - 9 PM

Saturday, January 20 | 9 AM - 2 PM



Scan to Register

**The Abiding and Active
Word of God**

Hosted by the Rockport Women's Discipleship Council

"God's Promise to a Righteous Man"

(Matthew 11:18-25)

I. Joseph's _____ and Extremely Difficult Dilemma. vv18-19

- Before they came together...

- Joseph is a _____ man.

God has put them in a _____ place.

II. God's Faithful Assurance of a _____ kept. vv20-23

(1) God is Always _____. He is always at
work in our lives. v20

(2) God's faithfulness to bring this _____ together for our
good and His Glory. vv20-21

(3) God's faithfulness is confirmed in keeping His _____
to send a _____. vv21-23; Isaiah 53:5-6; 1 Peter 3:18
-Isaiah 7:14 (Isaiah 7:13-16 for context)

-Romans 15:8

III. Joseph's faith-filled _____ and
_____ obedience. vv24-25

THIS WEEK AT ROCKPORT

SUNDAY - DECEMBER 24

Sunday Morning Bible Study	9:30 AM
Sunday Morning Worship	10:40 AM
Christmas Eve Candlelight Service	5:00 PM

Today's Greeters - Stephanie Tompkins & Ditto
Today's Tellers - Jennifer McMillian & Mysti Jackson
Today's Nursery - Kimberly Fels & Julian Davis
Please note: Nursery care during worship is for children up through age 2

Prayerfully consider Rockport's Budget Needs

Rockport Weekly Budget Goal.....	\$5,689.00
November Weekly Average.....	\$6,393.54

ANNOUNCEMENTS

- **MONDAYS at 7:00 PM** - Exercise Class at Rockport .
Please contact Susan Jackson for more information
susanjj1966@gmail.com or (636) 375-1113
- **SUNDAY, December 24 at 5 PM** - Christmas Eve Candlelight Service
- **SATURDAY, January 6 at 9:30 AM** - Dittmann baby shower
- **SATURDAY, January 13 at 8 AM - Men's Breakfast** - study of Titus - Standing for Godliness Bring food to share!
- **Women's Workshop** is coming Friday and Saturday, January 19-20.
- **Wednesday, February 21 - Abolish Abortion Rally** - We are meeting at the Rotunda within the State Capitol building @ 1pm. Reach out to the Benz', Stevens', or Adrian Cookson for more info. Carpooling possible.
- **Founder's Conference Midwest** is Tuesday, Feb 27- Wednesday, Feb 28, 2024 at FBC Fenton, MO. Sign up information is in the foyer.
- **Winter Clothing Drive** for the Salvation Army. Please contact Paula Ottofy, Sherie Eagleburger or Marquette Govero if you have donations.

A Word from Pastor Scott

Sunday December 24, 2023 – Christmas Eve

"She will bear a son, and you shall call his name Jesus, for He will save His people from their sins." - Matthew 1:21

"He will save His People from their sins!" That's the good news of Christmas we're here to celebrate this morning! Jesus came to save us, but from what? ***From our sins!*** From our God-denying, small-minded, earth-is-all-I-care-about, meaningless, wasted lives where we flitter away 70 or 80 years for nothing more than money or sex or luxuries or houses and lands and vacations and beauty and fame or whatever else you might come up with in an attempt to satisfy that empty place in your soul! *"For what does it profit a man to gain the whole world, yet forfeit his own soul?"* (Mark 8:36)

Or maybe we can say it this way: What does it profit you to live your whole life and yet never know God! You see, that's what Christ has come to do for us. Not only has He saved us from God's wrath against our sin, He's brought us into fellowship with God. *"Christ died for sins once for all, the righteous for the unrighteous, to bring you to God"* 1 Peter 3:18 says. **You and I were made for God! We exist to know God (John 17:3) – to glorify and enjoy Him forever!** So any life without God, in the end is a ***wasted life!*** You can be a millionaire celebrity, but without God it's all dust and ashes! But if you have Him – if you know Christ the way a man knows and trusts a dear and faithful friend – even an ash-heap becomes a joy-filled mansion.

So do you know Him this morning? That's the greatest gift of Christmas. Not just to have your sins forgiven by Christ, but to have Christ Himself reigning as Savior and Lord over all that you are and all that you have! That's how He saves His people from their sin, by giving them Himself!
Living in the Grace and Joy of Jesus as we celebrate His Coming!

Pastor Scott Lee

(Come back tonight at 5 PM for our annual Christmas Eve Candlelight Service)

Kid's Listening Sheet (12/24/23)

Title: "God's _____ to a Righteous Man

Bible Passage: Matthew _____



Key Words: Circle each word every time you hear it.

Heart	Flesh	Angel	Mary
Joseph	Wedding	Story	Child
Mother	Spirit	Fear	Holy
David	Prophet	Wife	Lord

What are three important things you heard during the sermon?

1.

2.

3.

Draw two pictures that show what you heard today:

1.

2.

Matthew 1:18-25

B R P M T R B Q J T H N A F
V P B J M G F L B E E N D R
A C E U O J O S E P H A B W
O H A S T E U L I T U M E I
B I R T H S N A N O S E T F
P L A C E U D C G G B S R E
L D M S R S H A M E A I O V
A K A P E V T M Q T N C T T
C H R I S T Q E R H D H H J
J A Y R O C O N C E I V E C
U N W I L L I N G R V E D C
A G B T V W I A T O O K C H
P E A B E H O L D P R M J O
J L O R D E C J G P C A L L
Q R J C P N J Q U I E T L Y

ANGEL	BEAR	BEEN
BEHOLD	BEING	BETROTHED
BIRTH	CALL	CAME
CHILD	CHRIST	CONCEIVE
DIVORCE	FOUND	HOLY
HUSBAND	JESUS	JOSEPH
JUST	LORD	MARY
MOTHER	NAME	PLACE
QUIETLY	RESOLVED	SHAME
SPIRIT	TOGETHER	TOOK
UNWILLING	WHEN	WIFE

December 24, 2023

■ **Welcome / Announcements / Call to Worship** ■ **“Come Behold the Wondrous Mystery”**

Words and Music by Matt Papa, Matt Boswell, Michael Bleecker © 2013 Love Your Enemies Publishing. CCLI#801260

Come behold the wondrous mystery in the dawning of the King.
He the theme of heaven's praises robed in frail humanity.
In our longing, in our darkness now the light of life has come.
Look to Christ, who condescended took on flesh to ransom us
Come behold the wondrous mystery. He the perfect Son of Man.
In His living, in His suffering never trace nor stain of sin.
See the true and better Adam come to save the hell-bound man.
Christ the great and sure fulfillment of the law; in Him we stand.

Come behold the wondrous mystery. Christ the Lord upon the tree. In the stead of ruined sinners hangs the Lamb in victory.
See the price of our redemption; see the Father's plan unfold.
Bringing many sons to glory grace unmeasured, love untold.

Come behold the wondrous mystery; slain by death the God of life. But no grave could e'er restrain Him; praise the Lord; He is alive!
What a foretaste of deliverance; how unwavering our hope. Christ in power resurrected as we will be when He comes

■ **Scripture Reading** - Luke 2:8-20

■ **Mission / Prayer / Offering** - The Mission Church in Zizin

■ **“Angels We Have Heard on High”**Hymn 132

Angels we have heard on high, Sweetly singing o'er the plains,
And the mountains in reply Echo back their joyous strains.

Glo - r - ia in excelsis Deo, Glo - r - ia in excelsis Deo

Shepherds, why this jubilee? Why your joyous strains prolong?

Say what may the tidings be, Which inspire your heav'nly song?
Come to Bethlehem, and see Him whose birth the angels sing;

Come, adore on bended knee Christ the Lord, the newborn King.
See within a manger laid Jesus, Lord of heav'n and earth!

Mary, Joseph, lend your aid, With us sing our Savior's birth.

■ **Confession / Lord's Supper**

Faithful God,

You've given us the greatest gift of all,
Yourself.

But too often we are too busy to take notice;
we depend too much on our own gifts
and abilities.

Forgive us, generous God,
for the careless way
we treat your gift of love.

Remind us of our need for your mercy
Cast out our sin and enter in,
be born in us today.

■ **“Who Would Have Dreamed?”**

On a starlit hillside, shepherds watched their sheep;
Slowly, David's city drifted off to sleep; But to this little town of no great renown;
The Lord had a promise to keep.

Prophets had foretold it, a mighty King would come; Long awaited Ruler, God's Anointed One;
But the Sovereign of all looked helpless and small; As God gave the world His own Son.

And who would have dreamed or ever foreseen; That we could hold God in our hands? The Giver of Life is born in the night; Revealing God's glorious plan; To save the world.

Wondrous gift of heaven: the Father sends the Son; Planned from time eternal, moved by holy love;
He will carry our curse and death He'll reverse; So we can be daughters and sons.

■ **“Joy to the World!”**Hymn 125

Joy to the world! the Lord is come; Let earth receive her King; Let ev'ry heart prepare Him room,
And heav'n and nature sing, And heav'n and nature sing, And heav'n and nature sing.

Joy to the earth! the Savior reigns; Let men their songs employ;
While fields and floods, rocks, hills, and plains Repeat the sounding joy,
Repeat the sounding joy, Repeat, repeat the sounding joy.

No more let sins and sorrows grow, Nor thorns infest the ground;

He comes to make His blessings flow Far as the curse is found, Far as
the curse is found, Far as, far as the curse is found. He rules the
world with truth and grace, And makes the nations prove The glories of
His righteousness, And wonders of His love, And wonders of His love,
And wonders, wonders of His love.

■ **Message - “God’s Promise to a Righteous Man”**

Matthew 1:18-25 - Pastor Scott

■ **“Hark the Herald Angels Sing”**.....Hymn 133

Hark! the herald angels sing, “Glory to the newborn King;
Peace on earth, and mercy mild, God and sinners reconciled!”
Joyful, all ye nations, rise, Join the triumph of the skies;
With th’angelic host proclaim, “Christ is born in Bethlehem!”
Hark! the herald angels sing, “Glory to the newborn King.”

Christ, by highest heav’n adored; Christ, the everlasting Lord! Late
in time behold Him come, Offspring of the Virgin’s womb: Veiled in
flesh the Godhead see; Hail th’incarnate Deity,
Pleased as man with men to dwell, Jesus, our Emmanuel.
Hark! the herald angels sing, “Glory to the newborn King.”

Hail the heav’n born Prince of Peace! Hail the Sun of
Righteousness! Light and life to all He brings, Ris’n with healing in His
wings. Mild He lays His glory by, Born that man no more may die,
Born to raise the sons of earth, Born to give them second birth. Hark!
the herald angels sing, “Glory to the newborn King.”

■ **Benediction**

2023 Christmas Missions Offering Options

- * **HeartCry Missionary Society**
- * **Lottie Moon Missions Offering**
- * **Psalm 67 Missions Network**
- * **Zizin, Romania Mission Church**
- * **Missionary Volunteer Michael Hawkins to Japan**

Please designate the amount and destination for your gift for
missions, along with your regular Rockport offering.