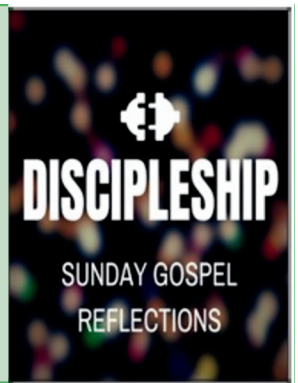


**Theme - Family of Faith**

**“Behold the angel of the Lord appeared to Joseph in a dream...Joseph rose and took the child and his mother by night and departed for Egypt.”** Verses 13-14 Matthew 2:13-15, 19-23



**Adults -**

1. Mary and Joseph endured many hardships in order to keep their son safe. They had to flee their homeland in order to stay safe and avoid persecution and the death of their son. What can we learn from this when we consider what people have to go through in other countries today in order to stay safe?
2. We are invited to find a model for our own families as we hear about the Holy Family of Jesus, Mary and Joseph. Interesting that their journey was not a picture-perfect illustration of domestic bliss. They weren't without their trials and challenges. How can this help us as we journey through life with our families?
3. We don't get to choose our families, but we can choose how we respond to our family challenges. How can the Holy Family be a source of encouragement and comfort as we navigate the difficulty of family dynamics?

**Obstacles for living out the Gospel:** Forgetting that God gave us a model for our families to emulate.

**Teens -**

1. What's the biggest challenge families face today that the Holy Family can be an example for? How do you think Mary and Joseph trusted God even when life didn't go as they expected?
2. The Holy Family faced struggles (poverty, fleeing as refugees, uncertainty). How can that encourage you when your family faces challenges?

**Obstacles to living out the Gospel:** Awkwardness or inconsistency in making faith part of home life, not making Mass a priority.



**Children -**

1. Do you think it was easy for Joseph to trust his dream that Jesus' life was at risk? How do you think he discerned whether to trust God was telling him to take his family to Egypt?
2. What can you do this week to better listen to the Holy Spirit's prompting to trust in Jesus and to actively live out your call to discipleship?
3. What did today's Gospel tell us about Jesus' family life as a child? Imagine how hard it was for Jesus to be a kid in a foreign land. Now, think about if a new kid came to your school who was not from around here, what would you do to make him/her feel welcome?

**Obstacles to living out the Gospel:** Not realizing that God is always talking to us every single day. Not paying attention to God's promptings.