

²⁰ An angel of the Lord appeared in a dream and 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. ²¹ She will give birth to a son, and you are to give him the name Jesus' Matthew 1:20-21

³⁰ But the angel said to her, 'Do not be afraid, Mary, you have found favour with God. ³¹ You will conceive and give birth to a son, and you are to call him Jesus.' Luke 1:30-31

²¹ 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.' Matthew 1:21

...it is by the name of Jesus Christ of Nazareth, whom you crucified - but whom God raised from the dead... Salvation is found in no one else, for there is no other name under heaven given to mankind by which we must be saved. Acts 4:10-12

Jesus stated, 'I am the way, and the truth, and the life. No one comes to the Father except through Me. John 14:6

Live in harmony with one another. Do not be proud, be willing to associate with people of other backgrounds. Do not be conceited... If it is possible, as far as it depends on you, live at peace with everyone. Romans 12:16-18

...it is by the name of Jesus Christ of Nazareth, whom you crucified - but whom God raised from the dead... Salvation is found in no one else, for there is no other name under heaven given to mankind by which we must be saved. Acts 4:10-12

I want to remind you of the Gospel... By this Gospel you are saved... This of first importance: Christ died for our sins according to the Scriptures; He was buried; He was raised on the third day, according to the Scriptures. 1 Corinthians 15:1-4

Here is a trustworthy saying that deserves full acceptance: Christ Jesus came into the world to save sinners. 1 Timothy 1:15

For it is by grace you have been saved, through faith – and this is not from yourselves, it is the gift of God Ephesians 2:8

The message of the cross is foolishness to those who are perishing, but to us who are being saved it is the power of God. 1 Corinthians 1:18

You will be saved – and that by God. Philippians 1:28

As you have always obeyed... continue to work out your salvation with fear and trembling, for it is God who works in you Philippians 2:12-13

Discussion starters

1. Do you like the name you were given by your parents? What nicknames were you given? What do you think makes for a good or bad name?
 2. Why do you think some parents choose unusual names for their children? Why do you think there is a correlation between unusual names and criminal behaviour?
 3. Suggest some reasons why angels told both Joseph and Mary what to name this child.
 4. Read Romans 12:16-18. How does this Scripture guide our refugee or immigration practices?
 5. Read Acts 4:10-12. How does this Scripture guide our relationships with other religions? Why is Jesus the only Saviour?
 6. How can our salvation be: Past (Ephesians 2:8); Present (1 Corinthians 1:18); and Future (Philippians 1:28)?
 7. Read Philippians 2:12-13. Give some examples of "working out your salvation".
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My prayer priorities for this week