

**Pastor Deric Bartlett**  
**Sermon Notes**

**A Wake-Up Call From Heaven! | Matthew 1:18-25**  
**December 13, 2020**

1. Wake up to the \_\_\_\_\_ of your life (v. 18)

2. Wake up to the \_\_\_\_\_ of your life (v. 19-20)

3. Wake up to the \_\_\_\_\_ of your life (v. 20)

4. Wake up to the \_\_\_\_\_ of your life (v. 20-25)

## QUESTIONS

ICEBREAKER: What is the most annoying machine you must deal with regularly?

1. Imagine the encounter between Mary and Joseph when she revealed her pregnancy [Matthew 1:18]. Why does God appear to interfere in our most cherished plans [cf. Jonah 4:1-11; Acts 9:1-9; and Philippians 1:12-14]?
2. Crises reveal character. How did Joseph's handling of Mary's news show the kind of person he was [Matthew 1:19] How does his example inspire you to respond to the crises in your life today [cf. Romans 5:3-5; James 1:12; and 2 Peter 1:5-8]?
3. Joseph's life had suddenly become complicated. How did the angel's message assuage his fears and reassure him God was in control with a plan [Matthew 1:20-21]? Consider also Genesis 50:15-21; Matthew 28:5-10; and Mark 5:35-36 for further insights.
4. Meditate on Jesus' mission as revealed in His Name [Matthew 1:21], knowing it is the same as the Old Testament "Joshua", which means "The LORD saves." How would Jesus accomplish His mission [cf. John 1:29; Acts 4:12; Colossians 1:18; and 1 Timothy 2:5-6]?
5. How do the prophecies of Jesus' First Advent [Matthew 1:22-23; cf. Genesis 3:15; Isaiah 9:6-7; and Micah 5:2] give you confidence as you look forward to His promised Second Advent [cf. Matthew 24:30; 1 Thessalonians 3:13; 2 Peter 3:4-13; and Revelation 22:20]?
6. How does the Name "Emmanuel" – God with us – bring you peace and strengthen your heart during these difficult days of uncertainty and unrest [Matthew 1:23]? Reflect also on Matthew 28:20; John 1:14; and Hebrews 2:14-18 for more encouragement.
7. What did you find helpful or challenging about this Sunday's message?

"Immanuel, God with us in our nature, in our sorrow, in our lifework, in our punishment, in our grave, and now with us, or rather we with Him, in resurrection, ascension, triumph, and Second Advent splendour." (Charles Spurgeon)