

# GROUPS

sermon guide

A GENEROUS CHRISTMAS - 12/21/2025 MIKE WILSON

## MAIN IDEA

WHEN BLESSED WITH PROXIMITY TO THE  
PROMISE, RESPOND LIKE JOSEPH

## KEY SCRIPTURES

LUKE 2:1-7, 21-24 & 39-40

## TALK ABOUT IT

- **ICEBREAKER:** What is something important in everyday life that usually goes unnoticed—but everything would fall apart without it? Why do you think those things are easy to overlook?
- The sermon described Joseph as “God’s silent partner.” Why do you think God often works through people who don’t get recognition?
- What does Joseph’s obedience reveal about the difference between being silent and being surrendered?
- How many times in this passage is Joseph shown doing something required rather than something celebrated? How does this reshape how we define success or faithfulness?
- Joseph accepted responsibility he didn’t create. Where might God be asking you to accept something difficult without complaining?
- What would a modern-day “silent ‘Let it be, God’” look like in your life?
- Joseph responded with presence instead of perfection. Why is that often harder than waiting for ideal conditions?
- Where are you tempted to delay obedience until things feel easier or clearer? How can faithfulness in small, unseen moments prepare us for bigger purposes we may never see?
- Joseph named Jesus and submitted Him to God’s law. What does this teach us about obedience even when we don’t fully understand God’s plan?
- Joseph offered what he had, not what he wished he had. What excuses do we sometimes make about what we lack? How does Joseph’s obedience challenge the idea that faithfulness requires having more than enough?
- How does the image of Joseph bringing two birds—while carrying the true Lamb of God—change how you see generosity?
- What does Joseph’s quiet fading from the story teach us about trusting God with outcomes we may never see?
- What does it look like to faithfully hold something God gives you for a season and then release it back to Him?
- Which of the four responses—Receive, Respond, Hold, or Release—do you find most challenging right now?
- How does Joseph’s story encourage you to remain faithful even when your obedience feels unseen?

## NEXT STEPS

### • ENCOUNTER:

- Christmas Eve Services, December 24th - 12pm, 1:30pm, 4:30 & 6pm Every service is an identical candlelit family service.
  - Spanish translation during the first **THREE** services.

### • EXPERIENCE:

### • GROUPS HIGHLIGHT:

- **Men’s Sermon Based Group** - Wednesday’s at 6pm in rm. 216 at SHC

*Let’s spread God’s love—one group at a time!*

### • EXPAND

- Ready to take the next step? Allow us to help you plug into a DREAM TEAM. Reach out to Jill Thayer at [jillt@sagehillchurch.com](mailto:jillt@sagehillchurch.com) for information on serve opportunities.

## GOING DEEPER

- **Reflection:** Where in your life are you currently close to what God is doing, but tempted to stay passive or disengaged instead of obedient?
- **Journal:** Write about a time when obedience cost you comfort, recognition, or control. What did that season reveal about your trust in God, and how did it shape your faith afterward?
- **Application:** What responsibility has God placed in your care for this season, and how can you steward it faithfully without needing recognition or reward?

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## NOTES

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