

JESUS: THE GREATEST LIFE OF ALL
A RELATIONSHIP, A COURTSHIP . . . A MIRACLE
SELECTED SCRIPTURES



The Heart of the Matter

Let's face it; life is messy. No one is exempt. Every life is marred by flaws, complications, inadequacies, failures, disappointments, and injustices. And it takes grace to love someone through the difficulties in his or her life. Mary, the mother of Jesus, never expected her life to become so complicated. Nevertheless, Joseph loved her and willingly allowed her difficulties to become his own. And when God became a human being in the person of Jesus Christ, He willingly accepted the complications and afflictions that accompany life in a fallen world—a world distorted by the awful effects of sin. His motivation? Love.



Discovering the Way

1. The Messy Town of Nazareth

Although never considered the garden spot of Israel, God chose Nazareth as the hometown of the young couple who would rear His Son.

2. The Messy Betrothal (Matthew 1:18–19; Luke 1:26–40)

Mary and Joseph were to be married, but she became pregnant and left Nazareth to spend three months with her aunt, Elizabeth.

3. The Messy Announcement (Matthew 1:19–25)

When Mary returned to Nazareth, Joseph discovered her pregnancy and decided to divorce her, until an angel visited him in the night.

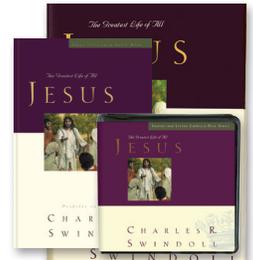


Starting Your Journey

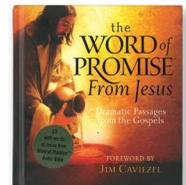
Nobody wants his or her life to get messy, but sometimes out of that ill-timed “mess,” the Lord's grace and mercy are placed on display. And we realize just how good He is at taking our confusion, our bewilderment, and our uneasiness and weaving it all together into a testimony to His name.



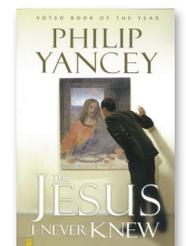
Tools for Digging Deeper



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