

Facing the Personal Battles
Part 1 of 3 in Series:
Facing the Challenges of Christmas
December 3, 2017

Text: Matthew 1:18-25

Joseph and Mary faced a number of personal battles for the manger scene to look as peaceful and lovely as it did.

1. THE BATTLE FOR PERSONAL _____ –THE BATTLE FOR PERSONAL INTEGRITY

Before they came together... Matthew 1:18

Your personal righteousness matters!

For the eyes of the Lord are on the righteous and his ears are attentive to their prayers, but the face of the Lord is against those who do evil. Psalm 34:15-16 and 1 Peter 3:12

2. THE BATTLE FOR _____

Because Joseph was a righteous man and did not want to expose her to public disgrace, he decided to call off their engagement quietly. Matthew 1:19

Joseph had a battle to get from rage to graciousness...

... forgiving each other, just as in Christ God forgave you. Ephesians 4:32

3. THE BATTLE FOR _____

You've got to fight the battle for trust.

Fight the good fight of the faith... 1 Timothy 6:12

Summary: By His Spirit's help, we will prevail in the fight for personal _____, _____, and _____.