Matthew 1:18-19 NIV

This is how the birth of Jesus the Messiah came about: His mother Mary was pledged to be married to Joseph, but before they came together, she was found to be pregnant through the Holy Spirit. Because Joseph her husband was faithful to the law, and yet did not want to expose her to public disgrace, he had in mind to divorce her quietly.

More often than not the biggest obstacle to <u>obeying God</u> is our fear of what others think!

Matthew 1:20-21

But after he had considered this, an angel of the Lord appeared to him in a dream and said, "Joseph son of David, <u>do not be afraid</u> to take Mary home as your wife, because what is conceived in her is from the Holy Spirit. 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."

4 Statements To Help You Overcome:

If I'm obsessed with what people think of me, I'll never believe what God says about me!

If I believe what God says about me, I won't care what people think of me!

If you're not willing to be <u>criticized</u> for your obedience to God, you're not <u>ready</u> to be used by God

Extraordinary acts of God most often start with Ordinary acts of obedience

Matthew 1:24 NIV

When Joseph woke up, he did what the angel of the Lord had commanded him and took Mary home as his wife.

Response

I'm going to follow through with my ordinary act of obedience!