Journey Church



Fear Not

December 10, 2023

Fear Not – Mary
Disruptions
God's Story
Luke 1:26-56 NIV
4 responses:
1. <u>Embrace</u> divine <u>greetings</u> as transformative <u>opportunities</u> 28The angel went to her and said, "Greetings, you who are highly favored! The Lord is with you
2. <u>Welcome</u> disruptions with the <u>wonder</u> of God 29Mary was greatly troubled at his words and wondered what kind of greeting this might be. 30But the angel said to her, "Do not be afraid, Mary; you have found favor with God.
3. <u>Surrender</u> to God's disruptive grace by <u>aligning</u> with His divine goodness 38 "I am the Lord's servant," Mary answered. "May your word to me be fulfilled."

- 4. Actively engage in worship
 - 46 "Oh, how my soul praises the Lord. 47How my spirit rejoices in God my Savior!

Questions/Topics for this week:

- 1. How do unexpected greetings in your life typically make you feel, and do you view them as opportunities for transformative growth? Share a specific instance when a simple greeting opened doors or changed your outlook.
- 2. When interruptions occur, how intentional are you about pausing and considering the potential work of God? Can you recall an experience where you allowed room for wonder and contemplation during a disruption?
- 3. Reflect on Mary's response to the angel's disruptive message. How did her willingness to be interrupted and surrender to God's plan inspire you?

Be Intentional:

In what specific ways can the group offer support to one another in navigating disruptions during this season? How might the group foster a sense of community akin to Mary seeking community with Elizabeth amid life-altering interruptions?

Pray:

Spend time praying together. What are some ways in which you can pray for each other? Take some time in the coming week to explore ways in which you can encourage one another. Remember to share with your group what you are learning about those opportunities and reflect on God's Word as you pray for each other.