



Shelby Christian Church

CHRISTMAS - HOLY MOMENTS - A MOMENT OF SURRENDER

LUKE 1:26-56 * 12/7/2025

We must be willing to humbly follow God's plans, even when they don't match ours.

When was a time you made plans and then God changed them for you? How did you respond?

HAVE A VOLUNTEER READ LUKE 1:26-38.

From verse 27, what plans and dreams do you imagine Mary had?

How do you think Mary felt when the angel Gabriel called her "highly favored one"? Why do you think she was troubled by the greeting? What does it mean to you that God chose a young, humble woman to play such a crucial role in His plan?

How might you have reacted in Mary's position? Compare Mary's initial response to God's "interruption" in her life with the way you typically respond when God brings or allows unexpected changes into your life.

What is the difference between questioning God and asking questions of Him?

How does her subsequent response, "I am the Lord's servant. May your word to me be fulfilled," show her faith? What do you think are some reasons Mary was able to face her troubling fears?

The angel announced that Mary would have a son named Jesus and that his kingdom would be everlasting. What does this promise of an everlasting kingdom mean for us today? How does this promise inspire you?

What circumstance in your life right now are you resisting taking on the attitude that you are the Lord's slave?

HAVE A VOLUNTEER READ LUKE 1:39-56.

What is the significance of each statement in Elizabeth's greeting to Mary (vv. 42-45)? How did Mary respond?

What reason did Mary give for her joy in Luke 1:48?

Why did God choose to bless Mary? Why would God choose to bless you and I?

In verses 49-50, Mary rejoiced in God's attributes. What specific attributes of God does Mary draw attention to in these two verses?

How does reflecting on God's attributes affect the way you respond to Him when unexpected things happen?

What works of God does Mary mention?

How can you find joy in the reliability of God despite your circumstances? How can you rely upon Him in the face of delay, defeat, or even death?

APPLICATION

Think of a time when you were asked to do something challenging for God. How did you respond? What can we learn from Mary's "yes" and her willingness to submit to God's will even when she didn't fully understand how it would work out?

The angel told Mary that "nothing will be impossible with God" (Luke 1:37). How can you apply this truth to a current situation in your life where you feel overwhelmed or things seem impossible? How does Mary's story encourage you that God knows what He's doing in that situation?

Name something God has asked you to sacrifice in order to follow His plan for your life. What are some practical ways you can remind yourself that God is working His plan in your life?

PRAYER