What if we found God's favor like Mary?

Wylie Methodist Church Pastor Jeff Hatcher – May 12, 2024

Luke 1:26-38

26 In the sixth month, God sent the angel Gabriel to Nazareth, a town in Galilee, 27 to a virgin pledged to be married to a man named Joseph, a descendant of David. The virgin's name was Mary. 28 The angel went to her and said, "Greetings, you who are highly favored! The Lord is with you." 29 Mary was greatly troubled at his words and wondered what kind of greeting this might be. 30 But the angel said to her, "Do not be afraid, Mary, you have found favor with God. 31 You will be with child and give birth to a son, and you are to give him the name Jesus. 32 He will be great and will be called the Son of the Most High. The Lord God will give him the throne of his father David, 33 and he will reign over the house of Jacob forever; his kingdom will never end." 34 "How will this be," Mary asked the angel, "since I am a virgin?" 35 The angel answered, "The Holy Spirit will come upon you, and the power of the Most High will overshadow you. So the holy one to be born will be called the Son of God. 36 Even Elizabeth your relative is going to have a child in her old age, and she who was said to be barren is in her sixth month. 37 For nothing is impossible with God." 38 "I am the Lord's servant," Mary answered. "May it be to me as you have said." Then the angel left her.

4 Lessons learned through the life of Mary:

1. MARY <u>SURRENDERED</u> TO GOD'S PLAN

Luke 1:38

"I am the Lord's servant," Mary answered. "May it be to me as you have said."

2. MARY KNEW WHO SHE COULD <u>COUNT</u> ON

John 2:3-5

3 When the wine was gone, Jesus' mother said to him, "They have no more wine." 4 "Dear woman, why do you involve me?" Jesus replied. "My time has not yet come." 5 His mother said to the servants, "Do whatever he tells you."

Psalms 121:1-2

I lift up my eyes to the hills — where does my help come from? 2 My help comes from the Lord, the Maker of heaven and earth.

3. MARY REMAINED FAITHFUL

John 19:25

Near the cross of Jesus stood his mother...

4. MARY KNEW JESUS WAS HER SAVIOR

Luke 1:46-47

46 And Mary said: "My soul glorifies the Lord 47 and my spirit rejoices in God my Savior.

Romans 3:10

As it is written: "There is no one righteous, not even one..."

Romans 10:9

... if you confess with your mouth, "Jesus is Lord," and believe in your heart that God raised him from the dead, you will be saved.