

Mary: A Call to Provide

The Call of Christmas

Luke 1:26-38

The Call of Christmas is a story about a place, a person, and the circumstances in our life that seem impossible.

“In the sixth month, the angel Gabriel was sent from God to a city of Galilee named Nazareth,” Luke 1:26

Jerusalem was seen as significant; Nazareth seemed insignificant.

John 1:46 records the contemporary Judean opinion of Nazareth:
“Can anything good come out of Nazareth?”

God sent Gabriel *“to a virgin betrothed to a man whose name was Joseph, of the house of David. And the virgin’s name was Mary.”*

Luke 1:27

“Therefore the Lord Himself will give you a sign. Behold, the virgin shall conceive and bear a Son, and shall call His name Immanuel.”

Isaiah 7:14

Gabriel, said to Mary upon his arrival in verse 28: *“Greetings, O favored one, the Lord is with you!”* Luke 1:28

The message from the angel for both Gideon and Mary includes the reminder that *“The Lord is with you.”* And the name stated in Isaiah’s prophecy we just noted from Isaiah 7:14 for the coming Messiah was Immanuel.

The meaning: God with us. The Lord is with you.

The Call of Christmas is a reminder that the Lord is with you.

“But she was greatly troubled at the saying, and tried to discern what sort of greeting this might be. And the angel said to her, ‘Do not be afraid, Mary, for you have found favor with God. And behold, you will conceive in your womb and bear a Son, and you shall call His name Jesus. He will be great and will be called the Son of the Most High. And the Lord God will give to Him the throne of His father David, and He will reign over the house of Jacob forever, and of His kingdom there will be no end.’” Luke 1:29-33

“And Mary said to the angel, ‘How will this be, since I am a virgin?’” Luke 1:34

Mary was being called into the promise:

Mary had the opportunity to join God in the call of Christmas.

Gabriel explained God’s plan to Mary’s question of ‘how?’:

“And the angel answered her, ‘The Holy Spirit will come upon you, and the power of the Most High will overshadow you; therefore the child to be born will be called holy—the Son of God.’” Luke 1:35

The Call of Christmas for Mary is a Call to Provide.

“And behold, your relative Elizabeth in her old age has also conceived a son, and this is the sixth month with her who was called barren. For nothing will be impossible with God.” Luke 1:36-37

Mary responded with trust and submission to God’s will in verse 38 because she believed what the angel reminded her of in verse 37.

“For nothing will be impossible with God.” And Mary said, ‘Behold, I am the servant of the Lord; let it be to me according to your word.’ And the angel departed from her.” Luke 1:37-38

What is your “impossible” this Christmas that the Lord wants to remind you is not impossible with Him?

What if your Call of Christmas is a reminder that nothing is impossible when the Savior is on the scene?

The process may be painful but necessary for something new to be created.

It may require counseling. It may include a total budget rework. It may be cause for confession and a request for forgiveness. But whatever God may lead you to do in your “impossible”, know that you will not be asked to walk alone. He is with you. He is Immanuel. He is Jesus. The Lord is salvation.

All you need to do is provide the Spirit of God space in your life to take up residence and begin a new work in you.