

THROUGH MARY'S EYES

Part 1 of Christmas 2025

The Cornerstone Youth Group. December 3, 2025.

LUKE 1

Luke 1:26-38 (CSB) In the sixth month, the angel Gabriel was sent by God to a town in Galilee called Nazareth, 27 to a virgin engaged to a man named Joseph, of the house of David. The virgin's name was Mary.

28 And the angel came to her and said, "Greetings, favored woman! The Lord is with you." 29 But she was deeply troubled by this statement, wondering what kind of greeting this could be.

30 Then the angel told her, "Do not be afraid, Mary, for you have found favor with God. 31 Now listen: You will conceive and give birth to a son, and you will name him Jesus. 32 He will be great and will be called the Son of the Most High, and the Lord God will give him the throne of his father David. 33 He will reign over the house of Jacob forever, and his kingdom will have no end."

34 Mary asked the angel, "How can this be, since I have not had sexual relations with a man? "

35 The angel replied to her, "The Holy Spirit will come upon you, and the power of the Most High will overshadow you. Therefore, the holy one to be born will be called the Son of God. 36 And consider your relative Elizabeth — even she has conceived a son in her old age, and

this is the sixth month for her who was called childless. 37 For nothing will be impossible with God.”

38 “See, I am the Lord’s servant,” said Mary. “May it happen to me as you have said.” Then the angel left her.

CHRISTMAS THROUGH MARY’S EYES

Theme

God works with and through people who say, “Yes.”

Walk Through the Passage

1. Where was Mary when the angel met her? (v. 26)
2. To whom was she engaged? (v. 27)
3. What did the angel say to Mary? (vv. 28 and 30)
4. What was Gabriel’s message from God to Mary? (v. 31)
5. List the descriptions and titles Gabriel gave to the child. (vv. 31-33)
6. How did Mary respond to Gabriel? (v. 38)

- Mary surrendered to her costly, misunderstood assignment.
- Mary aligned her future with God's will even before she could see how it would all work out.

7. What thoughts and emotions might Mary have experienced?

Key Insights

1. God's grace or favor is not earned or handed out because of our power or position. Mary was a "nobody" by worldly standards, but she received grace in two senses: favor and power.
 - Favor: No one deserves to bear the Son of God and Savior of the world.
 - Power: God chose her for an overwhelming assignment. She could not do it in her own strength.
2. The best response to God's Word is humble submission, as Mary showed: Verse 38, "See, I am the Lord's servant," said Mary. "May it happen to me as you have said."
3. Jesus is truly God and truly man, sent to rescue or save the world from sin and death. He is the Son of God, and the everlasting King of the world, and the Savior (Jesus means, the Lord saves).
4. The Incarnation (God becoming flesh) is a mighty miracle that shows God's great desire to restore us to himself. His grace or favor towards Mary was ultimately grace for the whole world.

Taking It Home

1. Worship, obey, and surrender to God. Say yes to his assignments. If you feel the nudge to do or say something for God, do it.
2. Keep Jesus front and center in your mind and life. All the other characters in the Christmas story are secondary to King Jesus. Don't put even the best things in the Christian life (worship music, church, friends, prayer, or whatever) ahead of Jesus.
3. Believe that you can work with God to advance his mission, no matter where you live, your age, your limits, or your past.

Make it Memorable

Pick one of the following words of surrender and say it every day:

- “I’m God’s servant; His way, not mine.”
- “Yes, Lord—even before I know all the details.
- “Your word, not my wants.”
- “I belong to Jesus; I’ll follow His plan.”
- “God, my answer is yes; show me what’s next.”
- “I’m available, not in control.”
- “Use me, Lord, even if it’s hard.”
- “Your promise is bigger than my fear.”
- “I’ll obey now and understand later.”