

### **Luke 1:26-38**

**26** In the sixth month the angel Gabriel was sent from God to a city of Galilee named Nazareth, **27** to a virgin betrothed to a man whose name was Joseph, of the house of David. And the virgin's name was Mary. **28** And he came to her and said, "Greetings, O favored one, the Lord is with you!" **29** But she was greatly troubled at the saying, and tried to discern what sort of greeting this might be. **30** And the angel said to her, "Do not be afraid, Mary, for you have found favor with God. **31** And behold, you will conceive in your womb and bear a son, and you shall call his name Jesus. **32** 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, **33** and he will reign over the house of Jacob forever, and of his kingdom there will be no end."

**34** And Mary said to the angel, "How will this be, since I am a virgin?"

**35** 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. **36** 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. **37** For nothing will be impossible with God." **38** 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.

### ***Discussion/Journal Questions***

How is everyone doing with the Resolve 2021 goals? How is your time in prayer, Bible, and Christian community going?

Share an example from your life of an unexpected surprise.

How do you typically respond when something unexpected happens?

Read Luke 1:26-33. Put yourself in the place of Mary. Why do you think she was greatly troubled? How would you react to the appearance of an angel?

Meditate on verses 32 and 33. What is the angel saying here? How would a Jewish person like Mary have understood these words?

Read Luke 1:34-38. Is Mary's question in verse 34 a statement of doubt? Why or why not?

Do you believe the angel's words in verse 37, "For nothing is impossible with God"? How does this change our reactions to the unexpected?

Read Luke 1:46-55. Not only did Mary believe that nothing was impossible for God, she also believe that God was for her. If you knew with 100% certainty that God is for you...what does that mean for the unexpected that often pops up in our lives?

What fears or anxieties are you facing in life right now? In what areas of life do you need the words "God is for you" and "Nothing is impossible for God" spoken over? How can your group pray for you?

**Who are you praying for to accept Jesus, and what specifically did you do this week to interact with them?**

**Who are you currently discipling, and what specifically did you do this week to help them know, love, and follow Jesus?**

**Who are you considering for future discipleship relationships, and what specifically did you do this week to interact with them?**