

# HOUSE TO H<sup>^</sup>OUSE

This is a resource for you to take the word God gives us in His house to your house!

A **HELPFUL TIP**: RE-watch the sermon online (*available @ facebook.com/journeychurch.family*) by yourself or with others.

## **I'M DREAMING OF A LIGHT CHRISTMAS: THE WEIGHT OF BITTERNESS?**

*Sunday, December 22, 2019*

*In a crowded busy holiday season it's common for people to be weighed down. By family, relationships, finances, regret and failure; just to name a few. This series will help you see the weight in things that God never asked you to carry. His solution is simple: Let go of the baggage and travel light.*

### **LUKE 1:26-38**

**26** In the sixth month of Elizabeth's pregnancy, God sent the angel Gabriel to Nazareth, a village in Galilee, **27** to a virgin named Mary. She was engaged to be married to a man named Joseph, a descendant of King David. **28** Gabriel appeared to her and said, "Greetings,[a] favored woman! The Lord is with you![b]" **29 Confused and disturbed**, Mary tried to think what the angel could mean. **30** "Don't be afraid, Mary," the angel told her, "for you have found favor with God! **31** You will conceive and give birth to a son, and you will name him Jesus. **32** He will be very great and will be called the Son of the Most High. The Lord God will give him the throne of his ancestor David. **33** And he will reign over Israel[c] forever; his Kingdom will never end!" **34** Mary asked the angel, "But how can this happen? I am a virgin." **35** The angel replied, "The Holy Spirit will come upon you, and the power of the Most High will overshadow you. So the baby to be born will be holy, and he will be called the Son of God. **36** What's more, your relative Elizabeth has become pregnant in her old age! People used to say she was barren, but she has conceived a son and is now in her sixth month. **37** For the word of God will never fail.[d]" **38** Mary responded, "I am the Lord's servant. May everything you have said about me come true." And then the angel left her.

**POWER THOUGHT** —> You don't always have the power to control, but you always have the power to **surrender**.

## **>>>>CONFUSED AND DISTURBED<<<<**

How many times do you arrive at seasons and circumstances in life where your experience is not matching your expectations?

**WHERE IN MY LIFE DO MY EXPERIENCES CONFLICT WITH EXPECTATION?**

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**MARY HAD TO MAKE A CHOICE:**

Her dreams or God’s destiny.  
Her plans or God’s purpose.  
Her control or God’s calling.

**LUKE 1:38 ESV**

**38 And Mary said, “Behold, I am the servant of the Lord; let it be to me according to your word.”**

*My desire to control is always rooted in my lack of faith —> Let it be!*

One of the most powerful statements a believer can make is...

**“God, I trust You!”**

**1 PETER 5:7**

**Give all your worries and cares to God, for he cares about you.**

**WHERE IN MY LIFE CAN LET GO OF CONTROL AND TRUST GOD?**

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**BIBLICAL INSIGHT** —> What’s so special about the story of Mary is the angel appears to her and immediately says, “The Lord is WITH you.” And then names this divine child, Emmanuel, meaning “God WITH us!” And we know God is the same yesterday, today, and forever (Hebrews 13:8) meaning as He was WITH Mary in a manger, He is WITH you today right where you’re at!

**PRAY:** Heavenly Father, I ask you to show yourself to be Emmanuel, God with me right here where I am at. I surrender to that truth knowing I will in turn experience your amazing faithfulness. As Mary said “Let it be.” fully surrendering to You in her unexpected experience, I do the same today. Lord, even when I don’t understand your plan, I choose to trust you today. In Jesus’ Name, **AMEN.**