

Up Close & Personal
Mary
May 14, 2023

Key Thought: Don't miss your moment with God.

Recognizing God-moment opportunities:

- ✓ God will ask you to do something outside your _____ zone.

Luke 1:26-30 In the sixth month of Elizabeth's pregnancy, **God sent the angel** Gabriel to Nazareth, a town in Galilee, to a virgin pledged to be married to a man named Joseph, a descendant of David. The virgin's name was Mary. The angel went to her and said, "Greetings, you who are highly favored! **The Lord is with you.**" Mary was greatly troubled at his words and **wondered what kind of greeting** this might be. But the angel said to her, "Do not be afraid, Mary; you have found favor with God."

- ✓ God moments often seem _____.

Luke 1:31-34 "You will conceive and give birth to a son, and you are to call him Jesus. 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, and he will reign over Jacob's descendants forever; his kingdom will never end." "**How will this be,**" Mary asked the angel, "since I am a virgin?"

Mark 10:27 Jesus looked at them and said, "With man this is **impossible**, but not with God; **all things are possible** with God."

- ✓ When God moments come, just say _____.

Luke 1:38 "**I am the Lord's servant,**" Mary answered. "**May your word to me be fulfilled.**" Then the angel left her.

Mark 5:36 Overhearing what they said, Jesus told him, "Don't be afraid; just believe."

- ✓ Your God moment will open the door for God's _____ in your life.

Luke 1:42,45 In a loud voice she exclaimed: "**Blessed** are you among women, and **blessed** is the child you will bear! ...**Blessed** is she who has **believed** that the Lord would **fulfill his promises** to her!"

John 2:5 His mother said to the servants, "Whatever He says to you, do it."

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What must we do to cultivate a God moment?

1. Stay connected to _____.

Luke 2:16-19 So they hurried off and found Mary and Joseph, and the baby, who was lying in the manger. When they had seen him, they spread the word concerning what had been told them about this child, and all who heard it were amazed at what the shepherds said to them. But Mary **treasured up** all these things and **pondered them in her heart**.

John 15:5 “When you're joined with me and I with you, the relation **intimate** and **organic**, the harvest is sure to be **abundant**. Separated, you can't produce a thing.”

2. Stay connected to the people who _____ you.

Luke 1:56 **Mary stayed with Elizabeth** for about three months and then returned home.

Hebrews 10:23-25 Let us hold unwaveringly to the hope we profess, for he who promised is faithful. And let us consider how we may spur one another on toward love and good deeds, **not giving up meeting together**, as some are in the habit of doing, but encouraging one another—and **all the more as you see the Day approaching**.

3. Stay connected to speaking the _____ of God.

Luke 1:45-48 Blessed is she who has **believed** that the Lord would fulfill his promises to her!” And **Mary said**: “My soul glorifies the Lord and my spirit rejoices in God my Savior, for he has been mindful of the humble state of his servant.

Psalms 103:1 Praise the LORD, my soul; all my inmost being, praise his holy name.

4. Stay connected to the _____ picture.

John 19:25-27 ...Jesus' mother, his aunt, Mary the wife of Clopas, and Mary Magdalene **stood at the foot of the cross**. Jesus saw his mother and the disciple he loved standing near her. He said to his mother, "**Woman, here is your son.**" Then to the disciple, "**Here is your mother.**" From that moment the disciple accepted her as his own mother.

Walk Away: When a moment comes to encounter God up close and personal, don't _____ it. Life is all about _____.

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