

Oh What Fun
The Daily Choice
Dec 14/15, 2019

Joel 2:23 Be glad...Rejoice in the Lord your God.

Luke 1:26-38 In the sixth month the angel Gabriel was sent from God to a city of Galilee named Nazareth, to a virgin betrothed to a man whose name was Joseph, of the house of David. And the virgin's name was Mary. And he came to her and said, "Greetings, O favored one, 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." And Mary said to the angel, "How will this be, since I am a virgin?" 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. 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." 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.

Mary had to make a choice:

- ✓ Her plans – God's purpose.

Proverbs 19:21 You can make many plans, but the Lord's purpose will prevail.

- ✓ Her dreams – God's destiny.
- ✓ Her desire for control – God's calling.

Key Thought: The more you try to be in control, the more you fear losing control. The more you fear losing control, the more you want to be in control.

Matthew 16:24-26 Then Jesus told his disciples, "If anyone would come after me, let him deny himself and take up his cross and follow me. For whoever would save his life will lose it, but whoever loses his life for my sake will find it. For what will it profit a man if he gains the whole world and forfeits his soul? Or what shall a man give in return for his soul?"

The Daily Choice of...

1. Walking by Faith, and accepting what you do not understand.

Key Thought: The more I find myself trying to control, the more I overestimate my ability to control, the more I underestimate the power and the goodness of God.

Hebrews 11:18-19 "...even though God had said to him, 'It is through Isaac that your offspring will be reckoned', Abraham reasoned that God could raise the dead..."

2. Knowing Him Better.

Daniel 11:32 ...the people who know their God shall stand firm and take action.

3. Releasing the power to control, in exchange for the power to surrender.

1 Peter 5:6-7 Humble yourselves, therefore, under the mighty hand of God so that at the proper time he may exalt you, casting all your anxieties on him, because he cares for you.

Walk Away: God can do way more with my surrender than I can ever do with my control.