

## Sermon Notes

12-10-23 - Advent - The Simple Gifts of Christmas – Peace

3 amazing elements:

### 1. An Amazing Announcement

#### Luke 1:31–37

<sup>31</sup> You will be with child and give birth to a son, and you are to give him the name Jesus.

<sup>32</sup> 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,

<sup>33</sup> and he will reign over the house of Jacob forever; his kingdom will never end.”

<sup>34</sup> “How will this be,” Mary asked the angel, “since I am a virgin?”

<sup>35</sup> The angel answered, “The Holy Spirit will come upon you, and the power of the Most High will overshadow you. So the holy one to be born will be called the Son of God.

<sup>36</sup> Even Elizabeth your relative is going to have a child in her old age, and she who was said to be barren is in her sixth month.

<sup>37</sup> For nothing is impossible with God.”

### 2. An Amazing Assignment

#### 2 Corinthians 4:7

<sup>7</sup> But we have this treasure in earthen vessels,

#### 1 Corinthians 1:27–28

<sup>27</sup> But God chose the foolish things of the world to shame the wise; God chose the weak things of the world to shame the strong.

<sup>28</sup> God chose the lowly things of this world and the despised things—and the things that are not—to nullify the things that are,

### Luke 1:26–30

<sup>26</sup> In the sixth month of Elizabeth’s pregnancy, God sent the angel Gabriel to Nazareth, a town in Galilee,

<sup>27</sup> to a virgin pledged to be married to a man named Joseph, a descendant of David. The virgin’s name was Mary.

<sup>28</sup> The angel went to her and said, “Greetings, you who are highly favored! The Lord is with you.”

<sup>29</sup> Mary was greatly troubled at his words and wondered what kind of greeting this might be.

<sup>30</sup> But the angel said to her, “Do not be afraid, Mary; *you have found favor with God.*”

### Luke 1:38

<sup>38</sup> “I am the Lord’s servant,” Mary answered. “May your word to me be fulfilled.” Then the angel left her.

Mary risked 3 things to obey God:

- Family Rejection and Public Disapproval
- The Loss of Her Fiancé - Mary demonstrated profound peace in the midst of the impossible.
- The Great Possibility of the Loss of Her Own Life

### 3. An Amazing Acceptance

**God chose Mary, and, Mary chose God!**