

Faith Building Thought – When we have the courage to believe God, even the impossible doesn't seem that crazy

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."

Courage to believe...

I. God's _____ of You

Luke 1:28 "And he came to her and said, 'Greetings, O favored one, the Lord is with you!'"

- A. "Favored one" came before Mary was pregnant**
- B. "Mighty man of valor" came before Gideon gathered his army**
(Judges 6:11-14)
- C. "Father of many" came to Abram before Isaac was born** (Genesis 12:1-2, 7)

II. God Can Handle Our _____

Luke 1:34 "And Mary said to the angel, 'How will this be, since I am a virgin?'"

- A. "How can this be" @Mary**
- B. "How can I ... I am the least" @Gideon** (Judges 6:15)
- C. "What will you give me" @Abram** (Genesis 15:2)

III. God's Work in _____ Shows His Ability to Work in _____

Luke 1:36-37 "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."

- A. For affirmation** (Luke 1:39-45)
- B. For praise** (Luke 1:46-55)
- C. For anticipation** (Luke 1:56)

IV. God is Faithful to _____ and _____

Luke 1:38 "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."

- A. Results in our submission - "Let it be according to your word"**
- B. Results in our obedience** – "He was called Jesus, the name given by the angel before he was conceived in the womb" (Luke 2:21b)
- C. Results in our walking in faith**

Luke 2:19 "But Mary treasured up all these things, pondering them in her heart."

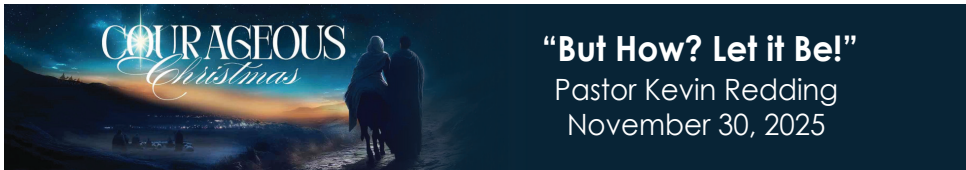
Luke 2:33 "And his father (Joseph) and his mother (Mary) marveled at what was said about him."

Luke 2:51 "And he (Jesus) went down with them and came to Nazareth and was submissive to them. And his mother (Mary) treasured up all these things in her heart."

John 19:25 "But standing by the cross of Jesus were his mother and his mother's sister, Mary the wife of Clopas, and Mary Magdalene."

Romans 1:17 "For in it (the gospel) the righteousness of God is revealed from faith for faith, as it is written, 'The righteous shall live by faith.'"

Hebrews 11 "By faith ... "



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