

## Sermon Guide and Discussion Questions

### A Gloriously Frightening Announcement – Luke 1:26-38

#### **Sermon Outline**

1. Introduction – illustration of the Wright Brothers
2. The Promise
3. The Power
4. The Response
5. Conclusion – we need to see the Christmas story with fresh eyes

#### **Scripture Passages Referenced**

- John 1:46 - Nathanael said to him, “Can anything good come out of Nazareth?”
- Luke 1:18 - How shall I know this? For I am an old man and my wife is advanced in years.
- Genesis 1:2 - The earth was without form and void, and darkness was over the face of the deep. And the Spirit of God was hovering over the face of the waters.
- Deuteronomy 10:17 - For the LORD your God is God of gods and Lord of lords, the great, the mighty, and the awesome God, who is not partial and takes no bribe.
- Isaiah 57:15 - For thus says the One who is high and lifted up, who inhabits eternity, whose name is Holy: “I dwell in the high and holy place, and also with him who is of a contrite and lowly spirit, to revive the spirit of the lowly, and to revive the heart of the contrite.”
- Genesis 18:14 - Is anything too hard for the LORD?
- Psalm 34:8 – Be still and know that I am God

#### **Discussion Questions**

- As we begin Advent, what are your initial thoughts and feelings?
- In what ways are you too familiar with the Christmas story and so miss out on its beauty and power?
- Why do we struggle so much with waiting?
- How is Advent helpful to put our focus on the first and second coming of Christ?
- Why is it crucial for us to believe in the virgin birth of Jesus?
- Put yourself in Mary’s shoes: how would you feel encountering the angel Gabriel?
- Do you truly believe that God is good?
- How have you experienced the goodness of God?
- Why is it significant even before His birth, salvation is the central focus?
- What can you learn from the fact that Gabriel says that Jesus will be great?
- Why do we forget about the power of Almighty God?
- What situations in your life are you in need of the power of God?
- How can you live by verse 37: Nothing will be impossible with God?
- What can you learn from Mary’s response to all that Gabriel told her?
- In what parts of your life do you struggle to humbly submit to the Lord?
- How does the goodness of God motivate and enable us to respond with humble submission?
- What can you do this Advent to help grow your love for the Lord?