

**Following Jesus
Making Room
Discover Church
Mark Phillips
February 26, 2023**

“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. 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?” The angel answered, “The Holy Spirit will come on 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. Even Elizabeth your relative is going to have a child in her old age, and she who was said to be unable to conceive is in her sixth month. For no word from God will ever fail.” “I am the Lord’s servant,” Mary answered. “May your word to me be fulfilled.” Then the angel left her.” Luke 1:26-38

God is asking Mary to **Make Room**

WIIFM = What’s In It For Me

What could God do if we created space for Him in our lives?

“How, then, can they call on the one they have not believed in? And how can they believe in the one of whom they have not heard? And how can they hear without someone preaching to them? And how can anyone preach unless they are sent? As it is written: “How beautiful are the feet of those who bring good news!” Romans 10:14-15

“Therefore, I urge you, brothers and sisters, in view of God’s mercy, to offer your bodies as a living sacrifice, holy and pleasing to God—this is your true and proper worship.” Romans 12:1

“When Jesus came to them and said, “All authority in heaven and on earth has been given to me. Therefore go and make disciples of all nations, baptizing them in the name of the Father and of the Son and of the Holy Spirit, and teaching them to obey everything I have commanded you. And surely I am with you always, to the very end of the age.” Matthew 28:18-20

Practical Ways to Make Room

1. Tell Your **Story**

“Go home to your own people and tell them how much the Lord has done for you, and how he has had mercy on you.” Mark 5:19

2. **Invite** people to **church**

3. Lead people to Jesus **inside** and **outside** the church

- **God created you and loves you**

“For God so loved the world that he gave his one and only Son, that whoever believes in him shall not perish but have eternal life.” John 3:16

- **Sin separates us from God**

“For all have sinned and fall short of the glory of God.” Romans 3:23

- **This sin of ours needs to be paid for**

“For the wages of sin is death, but the gift of God is eternal life in Christ Jesus our Lord.” Romans 6:23

“But God demonstrates his own love for us in this: While we were still sinners, Christ died for us.” Romans 5:8

- **God wants a relationship with you**

“For God did not send his Son into the world to condemn the world, but to save the world through him.” John 3:17

- **Deciding to follow Jesus**

“If you declare with your mouth, “Jesus is Lord,” and believe in your heart that God raised him from the dead, you will be saved. For it is with your heart that you believe and are justified, and it is with your mouth that you profess your faith and are saved.” Romans 10:9-10

- **Praying the prayer of salvation**

“But you will receive power when the Holy Spirit comes on you; and you will be my witnesses in Jerusalem, and in all Judea and Samaria, and to the ends of the earth.” Acts 1:8

- The reward of availability is **closeness**

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Practical Ways to Make Room

1. Tell Your _____
2. _____ people to _____
3. Lead people to Jesus _____ and
_____ the church

The reward of availability is _____

Scripture: *Luke 1:26-38; Romans 10:14-15; Romans 12:1; Matthew 28:18-20; Mark 5:19; John 3:16; Romans 3:23; Romans 6:23; Romans 5:8; John 3:17; Romans 10:9-10; Acts 1:8*