

Weekend Message Questions

The Art of Christmas - Week 3

Mary: Joy

December 10-11, 2022

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CHECK-IN: Check with the members of your group to see how they are doing.

- What are your personal Christmas traditions that bring you joy every year?

READ: Luke 1:26-38

- What stands out to you in this passage?
- In verse 38 Mary says “I am the Lord’s servant. May everything you have said about me come true.” If you were in Mary’s position, how do you think you would respond? Why?
- Has there ever been a time in your life when you felt like God was asking you to do something unbelievable? What did you do? How did your response impact your life?

READ: Luke 39-55

- What stands out to you in this passage?
- Mary said yes to God without hesitation even though it wasn’t an easy assignment, and it created joy in her life. How long does it take for us to say yes to God? Why do you think that is?
- Pastor John posed the question “Could it be that the absence of joy in our lives is because of disobedience?”
 - What do you think about that statement?
 - For you personally could this be true, or is there a time you can look back on and see that maybe that was the case? What happened? What did you learn about God and yourself in that time?

READ: Matthew 1:18-25, Luke 1:42-47, Luke 2:15-19

- What stands out to you in these passages?
- Mary’s community created joy in her obedience.
 - Who is your community?
 - Are the people in your life right now encouraging you to obey God or discouraging you from obeying God?
 - When Mary was called by God to do something difficult in her life, she already had Joseph by her side, and Elizabeth’s influence was already in place. Who are the people in your life that will create joy in your obedience, even when obedience seems scary or too big?

CLOSE:

- This week, examine your natural response to God and his calling on your life. How can you grow in having the right response?
- Examine your community and the people you choose to give a position of influence in your life. How can you build and cultivate relationships that create joy?

Pray to close.

Can you use prayer? <https://hopefellowship.net/prayer-request/>

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