

SERMON DISCUSSION GUIDE

“5 Things to Remember When you Have the Humbugs” – Pastor Chad Gilligan

12.10.23

- 1) Has God or someone ever told you something you were not expecting at all? What was your response?**

Read Luke 1:30 – “But the angel said to her, ‘Do not be afraid, Mary; you have found favor with God.’”

- 2) It is easy to fear the unexpected. What does this passage tell us about fear?**

Read Luke 1:36-37 – “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. 37 For no word from God will ever fail.”

- 3) Mary was presented with something that seemed impossible. Why do we have a hard time believing God can do the impossible or miraculous in our lives?**

Read Luke 1:46-47, 51-53 – “And Mary said: “My soul glorifies the Lord 47 and my spirit rejoices in God my Savior,”

“He has performed mighty deeds with his arm; he has scattered those who are proud in their inmost thoughts. 52 He has brought down rulers from their thrones but has lifted up the humble. 53 He has filled the hungry with good things but has sent the rich away empty.”

- 4) Mary was given impossible news and yet her response is incredible. What do these two passages teach us about our attitude when responding to the plans of God?**
- 5) When have you seen gratitude affect your life or the life of someone around you?**

Read Luke 1:48-50 – “for he has been mindful of the humble state of his servant. From now on all generations will call me blessed, 49 for the Mighty One has done great things for me— holy is his name. 50 His mercy extends to those who fear him, from generation to generation.”

- 6) How does looking back change our perspective about the future?**

Prayer: Take a moment to pray for the people you know who need a turn back moment.