

## Luke 1:26–38

**Main Idea:** When God interrupts your plans, it may be because He’s inviting you into His.

### Life Doesn’t Go as Planned

Everyone carries a mental picture of how life is “supposed” to go — the job we assumed, the relationship we expected, the timeline we imagined, even the Christmas plans that are already falling apart. But life rarely follows our script.

- ❑ **Lower Story Truth:** We crave predictability and control.
- ❑ **Upper Story Truth:** God cares more about shaping you than managing your calendar.

### Christmas – a Divine Interruption

1. **God often interrupts ordinary people for extraordinary purposes (vv.26–29).** Nazareth was ordinary. Mary was ordinary. Yet God chose her. God often works through people who don’t appear impressive — so He receives the credit.

- ❑ **Our plans:** predictable and safe.
- ❑ **God’s plans:** stretching and purposeful.

**Reminder:** God isn’t looking for impressive people — only available ones.

2. **God’s plan always creates questions we can’t answer (vv.30–34).** Mary’s response to the angel is deeply human: “*How can this be?*” She believed — but she didn’t understand. You don’t need to know how — only Who.

- ❑ **Q1: What step of obedience are you delaying because you can’t explain it?**
- ❑ **Q2: What dream did you quit because the timeline wasn’t clear?**
- ❑ **Q3: What fear is speaking louder than your faith?**

**Truth:** Just because you can’t see anything happening doesn’t mean nothing is happening.

3. **God reassures us with His presence before He reveals His plan (vv.35–38).** The angel doesn’t give Mary a timeline, manual, strategy, or due date. He gives her one assurance: “*The Lord is with you.*” Mary responds with surrender: “*I am the Lord’s servant.*”

**Important!** God is not asking for perfect understanding — just deeper trust

### Hanging in the Balance

Christmas begins with an unexpected interruption — and your Christmas might as well.

- ❑ **Q1: Has God programmed a divine interruption into your life?**
- ❑ **Q2: Where is He asking you to trust Him?**
- ❑ **Q3: What dream, fear, or plan do you need to place back in His hands?**

### Family Night – Read Luke 1:26–38

- **Elementary School:** Ask, “What did the angel tell Mary? Why do you think Mary trusted God even though she didn’t understand everything? How can we trust in God?”
- **Middle / High School:** Ask, “Where do you see God interrupting Mary’s plans? What is one area in your life where God may be asking for trust? How do you respond when life doesn’t go as planned?”

#### Velocity (Middle and High School Students)

**Velocity:** Come to Bethlehem, Wed. Dec. 10 at 6pm.

**Gravity:** Today in Both Services

#### Today’s Songs

*Angels We Have Heard on High*

*It Came Upon A Midnight Clear*

*Joy to the World*

*O Come All Ye Faithful*

#### Velocity Events

The Hunt – December 17

Winterblast – January 16-19

#### Deck the Halls

Today at 4:30. Wear your pajamas, bring your sleeping bag and money for concession stand. We will make Gingerbread Houses and watch a movie!

#### Wondering to Bethlehem

Families are invited to an outside event on Dec. 10 to visit “Bethlehem”. Last day to select your timeslot.

#### Christmas Eve

Come to our annual Candlelight Service on December 24 at 6pm.