

*Live  
... an inspired life*

In the sixth month, 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 be with child and give birth to a son, and you are to give him the name 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 the house of Jacob 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 upon 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 barren is in her sixth month. For nothing is impossible with God."

"I am the Lord's servant," Mary answered. "May it be to me as you have said." Then the angel left her. Lk 1: 26-38



# sermon notes

*Does God ask too much?*

## A **Pure** Life: You have found favor with God

*"Blessed are the pure in heart, for they shall see God"* Matt. 5:8

*"I will not let anyone walk through my mind with their dirty feet."*  
Mahatma Gandhi

## A **Yielded** Life: I am the Lord's **Servant**

Take me as I am, make me better than I am,  
because only YOU can.

If you are a learner, flexible, hungry **Becoming**

If you are certain, rigid, comfortable **Decaying**

## A **Confident** Life: May it be to me as you have said

Faith is trusting in advance what can only be understood in reverse.

Simon answered, *"Master, we've worked hard all night and haven't caught anything. But because you say so, I will let down the nets."* Luke 5:5

## The Invitation from God...

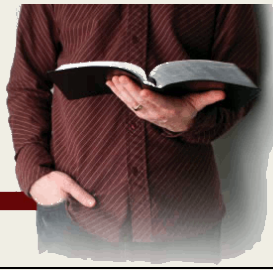
Does it require faith in God?

Is it personally challenging, convicting or compelling?

Is it consistent with God's character revealed in Scripture?

# BIBLE STUDY

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"Opportunity knocks at the strangest times. It's not the time that matters But how you answer the door." Steve Gray

## *Christ's Coming Brings Joy*

### **MONDAY**

We fix our eyes on Jesus, the pioneer and perfecter of faith. For the joy set before him he endured the cross, scorning its shame, and sat down at the right hand of the throne of God. (Hebrews 12:2)

### **TUESDAY**

The kingdom of God is not a matter of eating and drinking, but of righteousness, peace and joy in the Holy Spirit. (Romans 14:17)

### **WEDNESDAY**

Give joyful thanks to the Father, who has qualified you to share in the inheritance of his holy people in the kingdom of light. For he has rescued us from the dominion of darkness and brought us into the kingdom of the Son he loves, in whom we have redemption, the forgiveness of sins. Col 1:12

### **THURSDAY**

You make known to me the path of life; you will fill me with joy in your presence, with eternal pleasures at your right hand. (Psalm 16:11)

### **FRIDAY**

Let all who take refuge in you be glad; let them ever sing for joy. Spread your protection over them, that those who love your name may rejoice in you. Ps 5:11

### **SATURDAY**

If you keep my commands, you will remain in my love, just as I have kept my Father's commands and remain in his love. I have told you this so that my joy may be in you and that your joy may be complete. My command is this: Love each other as I have loved you. (John 15:10-12)