

THE ROAD OF FAITH

Would you feel worse if no one showed up to your wedding or to your funeral?

We all want to think that people would love and support us for the really big moments in our lives. Today, we will look at Mary and Joseph and how they may have felt in the biggest moment of their lives.

Luke 1:26-33— In the sixth month, the angel Gabriel was sent by God to a town in Galilee called Nazareth, 27 to a virgin engaged to a man named Joseph, of the house of David. The virgin's name was Mary. 28 And the angel came to her and said, "Greetings, favored woman! The Lord is with you." 29 But she was deeply troubled by this statement, wondering what kind of greeting this could be. 30 Then the angel told her, "Do not be afraid, Mary, for you have found favor with God. 31 Now listen: You will conceive and give birth to a son, and you will name Him Jesus. 32 He will be great and will be called the Son of the Most High, and the Lord God will give Him the throne of His father David. 33 He will reign over the house of Jacob Forever, and His kingdom will have no end."

According to Pastor Chris' message, how might Mary's family and her community responded to her situation?

If Mary (a scared teenager) came to you for advice, how would you counsel her?

Would you believe her story?

Could you tell her a time in your life when God used a bad situation to accomplish something good?

Why do you think that God's ways don't always make the most sense?

Luke 1:34-37 — Mary asked the angel, "How can this be, since I have not had sexual relations with a man?" 35 The angel replied to her, "The Holy Spirit will come upon you, and the power of the Most High will overshadow you. Therefore, the Holy One to be born will be called the Son

of God. 36 And consider your relative Elizabeth—even she has conceived a son in her old age, and this is the sixth month for her who was called childless. 37 For nothing will be impossible with God.”

In verse 28, how did the angel greet Mary?

In verse 30, what did the angel tell her?

So according to those words what qualified Mary for such a task?

In verse 34, how does Mary disqualify herself?

**Do you think you disqualify yourself from being used by God in great ways?
If so, how?**

How does God qualify us?

Pastor Chris said in his message that God understands everything you are going through right now. What words can you think of to describe how that makes you feel?

In Sunday’s message, Pastor Chris stated that God allows seasons of unrest and crisis in our faith so we can...

- have something to gripe about**
- know the strength of our faith**
- know where our Bible is**
- really think and meditate about it**

What does verse 37 mean to you?

Do you think Mary saw this as an honor from God or a hardship?

When something difficult comes your way, do you see it as a hardship or that maybe God is wanting to work through you in the situation?

How do you react when God says “no” to your prayers?

What did Pastor Chris mean when he said “We are all pregnant with possibilities?”

PRAYERTIME

Pray together that God would grow your faith to follow Him through uncertain days.

Ask God to help you find favor in His eyes.

Ask God to accomplish the possibilities that are growing inside of you.