

Sermon Notes

Date: 12/24/2023

Title: **I AM THE LORD'S SERVANT**

Speaker: Gary Reiss

Topic: _____



Scripture:

Luke 1:26-38 NIV

<https://bible.com/bible/111/luk.1.26-38.NIV>



Notes/Reflection

She was no prophetess of renown. She wasn't world famous. She probably wasn't even known beyond the small neighborhood where she grew up. Men and women didn't seek out her wisdom and advice. She was a simple young woman. A teenage girl. She wasn't a princess, and she never enjoyed a fairy-tale life. The rich and influential paid her no heed. In their minds, it was as if she never even existed. She wasn't a brilliant scholar. She never had the benefit of sitting among the best teachers and philosophers of her day.
~ Joni Eareckson-Tada, A Christmas Longing

Obedience ~ is being all ears for God

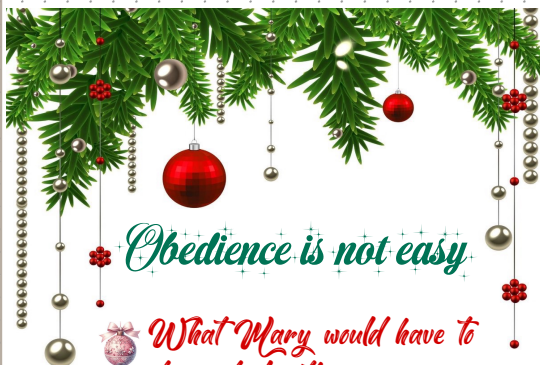
His call

His voice

His will

It is also what true love looks like

Key Points



Obedience is not easy

What Mary would have to do or deal with

There would have been no Christmas without obedience

Though obedience is not easy... It is richly and deeply rewarding

TWO SIGNIFICANT LINES IN THE STORY

"For nothing is impossible with God." (v.37)

"I am the Lord's servant, may it be to me, as you have said." (v.38)

The child will be special

- * He will be great
- * He will be called Son of the Most High
- * The Lord will give Him the throne of his father David
- * He will reign over the house of Jacob forever
- * His kingdom will never end





God's interruptions

- * Interrupted Zachariah's priestly duties (Luke 1:11)
- * Interrupted Mary's daily duties (Luke 1:26)
- * Might God want to interrupt us to speak to us?
- * What if God shows up?

Luke 1:38

- * "I am the Lord's servant, may it be to me as you have said."
- * God's will is not necessarily easy
- * Mary's life got complicated



"Never underestimate the power of a God who could have turned His back on us in wrath forever, but instead became Love incarnate, love that bore all things and endured all things, even to the cross, so that we might be restored to Him and to one another." ~ Fleming Rutledge

What God did was not easy

"To get contact with us was not easy, for our sins stood in the way of fellowship. So He had to come to us wearing our sins in His own heart in atoning love. The Cross is the price God pays to get us in spite of our sins."
~ E. Stanley Jones, The Way

"God knew we could never buy our way to him...The cost was too great; We could never earn our way to Him...the task was too great; We could never will our way to Him... the commitment was too great. God knew we could never come to Him...so He came to us. ~ Roy Lesson