

1992

Faith is what brought PMC here and faith is
what will keep PMC growing

Faithful Ones #6

Mary

Luke 1:26-27

²⁶ In the sixth month of Elizabeth's pregnancy, God sent the angel Gabriel to Nazareth, a town in Galilee, ²⁷ to a virgin pledged to be married to a man named Joseph, a descendant of David. The virgin's name was Mary.

When the angel appeared to Mary,

1. Mary was very young (~13 years old)
2. She would have been Joseph's wife, but not yet dwelling with him.
3. She had not had sexual relations with Joseph yet.

Luke 1:28-29

²⁸ The angel went to her and said, “Greetings, you who are highly favored! The Lord is with you.” ²⁹ Mary was greatly troubled at his words and wondered what kind of greeting this might be.

Possible Questions...

- But I already have a husband so how would this be possible?
- I am already betrothed and Joseph would divorce me without a doubt, how how how?
- My family and friends would think that I had sexual relations with Joseph even though I was only betrothed and still living with my family, what would happen to me?
- Who would marry a non virgin after this happens?
- Why are you destroying my life?!?!?

Luke 1:34

“How will this be,” Mary asked the angel, “since I am a virgin?”

Luke 1:12-20

¹² When Zechariah saw him, he was startled and was gripped with fear. ¹³ But the angel said to him: “Do not be afraid, Zechariah; your prayer has been heard. Your wife Elizabeth will bear you a son, and you are to call him John...¹⁸ Zechariah asked the angel, “How can I be sure of this? I am an old man and my wife is well along in years.”

¹⁹ The angel said to him, “I am Gabriel. I stand in the presence of God, and I have been sent to speak to you and to tell you this good news. ²⁰ And now you will be silent and not able to speak until the day this happens, because you did not believe my words, which will come true at their appointed time.”

Luke 1:35-37

³⁵ The angel answered, “The Holy Spirit will come on 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. ³⁶ 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.”

Mary's Song - Luke 1:46-55

⁴⁶ And Mary said: "My soul glorifies the Lord

⁴⁷ and my spirit rejoices in God my Savior,

⁴⁸ 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.

Mary's Song - Luke 1:46-55

⁵¹ 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.

⁵⁴ He has helped his servant Israel, remembering to be merciful

⁵⁵ to Abraham and his descendants forever, just as he promised our ancestors.”

Mary's faith was built on her knowledge of
the Word of God

Faith is what is in our hearts and that we
have to act on it and live it out

Luke 1:38

“I am the Lord’s servant,” Mary answered. “May your word to me be fulfilled.” Then the angel left her.

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I AM THE LORD'S SERVANT

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When was the last time God called you to do something that required real faith on your part and wasn't easily within reach of accomplishing?

Nowhere Nazareth

"In the Virgin's case, God's action certainly seems surprising. Mary has no human claim to receiving the announcement of the Messiah's coming. She is not the high priest, an official representative of the Hebrew religion, nor even a man, but a young woman without any influence in the society of her time. In addition, she is a native of Nazareth, a village which is never mentioned in the Old Testament."

Mary thus stands in the biblical tradition of God choosing the people we'd least expect to play a crucial role in His plan of salvation.

In the same way,
God chooses each one of us

Faithful Ones...

Abel

Enoch

Abraham

Sarah

Rahab

Mary

Proverbs 3:5-6

⁵ Trust in the Lord with all your heart and do not lean on your own understanding. ⁶ In all your ways acknowledge Him, and He will make your paths straight.

When we let go of control...

- We gain the courage to live in sync with our convictions
- We choose to unlace the tangled knots in our life that hold us captive
- We count the cost, and we choose to move forward, despite an uncertain future

By seeking a safe and controlled environment...

- We become complacent and never venture out of the comfort zone
- We fear the unknown
- We deceive ourselves into thinking that risks and unknowns can be managed

When we let go of control, we exercise our faith by placing our lives in the One who is truly in control.

“Our walk with our Lord Jesus is a journey of obedience even when things are not clear, or when we find ourselves in situations that we cannot understand.”

- Raymond

“To trust God in the light is nothing, but trust him in the dark - that is faith.”

- Spurgeon

“You know better than I”

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