

A Christmas Surprise

Luke 1:26-38 - The Announcement to Mary

1. God comes to us in the middle of regular life.

God sent the angel Gabriel to Nazareth, a village in Galilee, to a virgin named Mary. She was engaged to be married to a man named Joseph, a descendant of King David. Gabriel appeared to her and said, "Greetings!" Luke 1:26-28 NLT

2. God is not bound by our expectations and understandings.

Mary asked the angel, "But how can this happen? I am a virgin." Luke 1:34 NLT

3. Trust in God's presence, promise and purpose.

Gabriel appeared to her and said, "Greetings, favored woman! The Lord is with you!...the word of God will never fail." Luke 1:28, 37 NLT

Mary responded, "I am the Lord's servant. May everything you have said about me come true." Luke 1:38 NLT

Matthew 1:18-25 - The Announcement to Joseph

4. Stay gracious no matter what the circumstances.

Joseph, to whom she was engaged, was a righteous man and did not want to disgrace her publicly, so he decided to divorce her quietly.

Matthew 1:19 NLT

5. Let God use you in the twists and turns of life.

After Joseph woke up, he and Mary were soon married, just as the Lord's angel had told him to do. But they did not sleep together before her baby was born. Then Joseph named him Jesus.

Matthew 1:24-25 CEV