

## **CHRISTMAS FAITH!**

*Luke 1:26-38*

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*Woodland Church*

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*“And the angel came in unto her, and said, Hail, thou that art highly favoured, the Lord is with thee: blessed art thou among women.” (Luke 1:28, KJV)*

MARY TAUGHT ME TO THINK AND ASK GOOD QUESTIONS.

*“Mary asked the angel, “But how can this happen? I am a virgin.” (Luke 1:34, NLT)*

### 1. FAITH GROWS GRADUALLY.

*“But how can this happen?” (Luke 1:34, NLT)*

*“Mary responded, “I am the Lord’s servant. May everything you have said about me come true.” And then the angel left her.” (Luke 1:38, NLT)*

*“Don’t let your hearts be troubled. Trust in God, and trust also in me.” (John 14:1, NLT)*

*“At the sound of Mary’s greeting, Elizabeth’s child leaped within her, and Elizabeth was filled with the Holy Spirit. Elizabeth gave a glad cry and exclaimed to Mary, “God has blessed you above all women, and your child is blessed. Why am I so honored, that the mother of my Lord should visit me? When I heard your greeting, the baby in my womb jumped for joy. You are blessed because you believed that the Lord would do what he said.” (Luke 1:41–45, NLT)*

*“He shows mercy from generation to generation to all who fear him. His mighty arm has done tremendous things! He has scattered the proud and haughty ones. He has brought down princes from their thrones and exalted the humble. He has filled the hungry with good things and sent the rich away with empty hands. He has helped his servant Israel and remembered to be merciful. For he made this promise to our ancestors, to Abraham and his children forever.” (Luke 1:50–55, NLT)*

## 2. STAY FILLED WITH WONDER!

*“Mary responded, “Oh, how my soul praises the Lord. How my spirit rejoices in God my Savior!” (Luke 1:46–47, NLT)*

Let us love and sing and wonder  
Let us praise the Saviors name  
He has hushed the laws thunder  
He has quenched Mount Sinai’s flame  
He has washed us with His blood  
He has brought us nigh to God.

*LET US LOVE AND SING AND WONDER, JOHN NEWTON*

## 3. COMMIT MY LIFE TO GOD.

“She heard the angel out, pondered the repercussions, and replied, I am the Lord’s servant. May it be to me as you have said,” Often a work of God comes with two edges, great joy and great pain, and in that matter-of-fact response Mary embraced both. She was the first person to accept Jesus on his own terms, regardless of the personal cost.”

*Phillip Yancey, The Jesus I Never Knew*

*“You fathers—if your children ask for a fish, do you give them a snake instead? ... how much more will your heavenly Father give the Holy Spirit to those who ask him.” (Luke 11:11–13, NLT)*

- a. Find favor with God this morning.
- b. Admit your anxieties.
- c. Ask your questions in order to believe.
- d. Say yes to God.
- e. Sing with joy!

*“For the word of God will never fail.” (Luke 1:37, NLT)*