

December 13th

God is talking to Mary, telling her the promises in the holy writings are about to come to pass. And she has been chosen to participate, to be a major player in the events that are about to take place. God is going to personally come to her so she becomes pregnant with His holy Son.

So now Mary has to answer. Is she willing to step out into the miraculous?

Luke 1:38b – *Then Mary said, “Behold the _____ of the Lord! Let it be to me according to your _____...”*

Yes, God.

I do not understand everything You are asking me to do.

I do not know everything I will have to walk through.

I do not know how everything will effect me.

I do not know how my relationships will be OK.

But yes.

So Gabriel leaves (**38c**), returning to heaven to help make preparations.

So where does Mary do?

Luke 1:39-40 – ³⁹*Now Mary arose in those days and went into the hill country with haste, to a city of Judah, ⁴⁰and entered the house of _____ and greeted _____.*

She goes to see for herself the miracle the angel spoke of, her aged cousin heavy with child. To assure herself, possibly, that she was not dreaming. That this is really happening. That God has really spoken to her.

And she sees Elizabeth, pregnant as she was told. And she knows it is all real. And then God adds more depth to her faith when Elizabeth meets her.

Luke 1:41-45 – ⁴¹*And it happened, when Elizabeth heard the greeting of Mary, that the babe _____ in her womb; and Elizabeth was filled with the _____.*

⁴²*Then she spoke out with a loud voice and said, “_____ are you among women, and _____ is the _____ of your womb! ⁴³But why is this granted to me, that the mother of my _____ should come to me? ⁴⁴For indeed, as soon as the voice of your greeting sounded in my ears, the babe _____ in my womb for joy. ⁴⁵_____ is she who believed, for there will be a _____ of those things which were told her from the Lord.”*

The baby jumps for joy at the presence of the new Savior. Elizabeth becomes empowered by God’s Spirit. And Mary receives confirmation that God is definitely at work.

Going Deeper:

1. *What is something hard or impossible you have believed or said "yes" to because God said it was true or promised it would come to pass? What happened?*

2. *Why is Mary's first action to go visit Elizabeth?*

3. *What is the immediate "impact" of Elizabeth receiving the Spirit? Why is this important to Mary?*

4. *How does Mary respond in Luke 1:46-55 to Elizabeth's words?*

5. *Who does Jesus say is blessed in John 20:29? Why?*

6. *Mary called herself "maidservant of the Lord" when she agreed to participate with God's purposes. How often do you obey without questions, fears, or issues? How do you see (consider) yourself when it comes to obeying God?*
