

"God, Why Me?" Questions for God series Pastor Jason 05.14.23

In the sixth month of Elizabeth's pregnancy, God sent the angel Gabriel to Nazareth, a town in Galilee, to a virgin pledged to be married to a man named Joseph, a descendant of David. The virgin's name was Mary. The angel went to her and said, "Greetings, you who are highly favored! The Lord is with you." Mary was greatly troubled at his words and wondered what kind of greeting this might be.

But the angel said to her, "Do not be afraid, Mary; you have found favor with God. You will conceive and give birth to a son, and you are to call him Jesus. He will be great and will be called the Son of the Most High. The Lord God will give him the throne of his father David, and he will reign over Jacob's descendants forever; his kingdom will never end."

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

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. 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. For no word from God will ever fail."

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

- Luke 1:26-38

Instead of asking "WHY ME?", what if you ask, "WHY NOT?"

"Mary reminds us of God's favor. She is what it looks like to believe that we already are who God says we are.... In her we see what casting our lot with and being blessed by God really looks like. Namely that being blessed means seeing God in the world and trusting that God is at work even in things we can't see, or understand, or imagine. To be a people marked by the faith of Mary is to be a people, who say Ok, I don't understand what's going on and I know that my life isn't going to end up looking like one I would choose out of a catalogue but I trust that God is at work in all of it. Blessedness is being used for God's purpose more than it's getting what I want or things being easy." - Nadia Bolz-Weber, Accidental Saints

Mary believed whatever God was up to was **GREATER** than whatever she was going to have to **GO THROUGH**.

God's Big Idea: Are you **UP FOR** whatever God is **UP TO**?