

**New Song Community Church**  
**This Is Not What I Expected**  
**Sunday, December 22, 2019**

In the few days remaining before Christmas and the days after, I would like to invite you to rehearse the encounter that Mary had with the angel of the Lord that announced to her something that surpassed any other opportunity extended to a person ever known or ever to be known. The amazing thing about this encounter was that her response gave all mankind hope that God looks at His creation with love that defies human comprehension to demonstrate His desire to embrace and bless those upon which He bestows favor.

Our study lessons this week will only require you to quiet yourself and meditate through prayer on 6 principles that Mary had to confront in order to bring forth Jesus.

**Lesson 1: “Hail favored one.” Luke 1:26-28**

- A. Take a moment and think of the things in which you have experienced the unmerited favor of God in your life.
- B. What is your response toward favor that has been shown to you?
- C. Ask the Lord, in prayer, to show you how to use His favor upon your life to be a blessing on the lives of others around, both believers and non-believers.

**Lesson 2. “Do not be afraid for you have found favor with God”**

**Luke 1:30**

- A. Take a moment and assess some of the reasons why you are afraid of the favor of God on your life.
- B. Remind yourself that the favor of God does not come into alignment with the favor of man.
- C. Pray that the Lord will remove fear from your life in order to accept His assignment to perform things that He has given to you exclusively to do for Him. Perfect love casts out fear.

**Lesson 3. “I don’t know how to make this happen” Luke 1:34**

- A. Take a moment to address the fact that you have no means to make anything happen without the help of the Lord.
- B. The Lord is looking for your cooperation with His plan in your life.
- C. Let your prayer be a request for the Lord to reveal to you things that hinder you from receiving God’s promise by catering to your intellect rather than the Holy Spirit work in your heart.

**Lesson 4. “The Holy Spirit Will Do the Work” Luke 1:35**

- A. Take a moment to think about the presence of the Holy Spirit being constantly around you.
- B. Invite the presence of the Holy Spirit to overrule any doubt, fear or apprehension of His work in you.
- C. Pray that you will experience the presence of the Holy Spirit making you aware of Jesus transforming you from the inside out.

**Lesson 5. Nothing is impossible with God Luke 1:37**

- A. Take a moment to think about all of the things that man deems impossible that you have seen or heard that have been done by the Lord.
- B. Think of one thing that God has done in your life that you thought was impossible that you have experienced.
- C. Let your prayers today include those things that seem impossible to man but can be done by “the God of the impossible”.

**Lesson 6: “Let it be according to your word” Luke 1:38**

- A. Recognize today and always that you are the Lord’s servant.
- B. When we resolve to let go it is with confidence in the One who’s word is reliable.
- C. Let your prayers be those of surrender to the power of the unfailing immutable, infallible word of God.