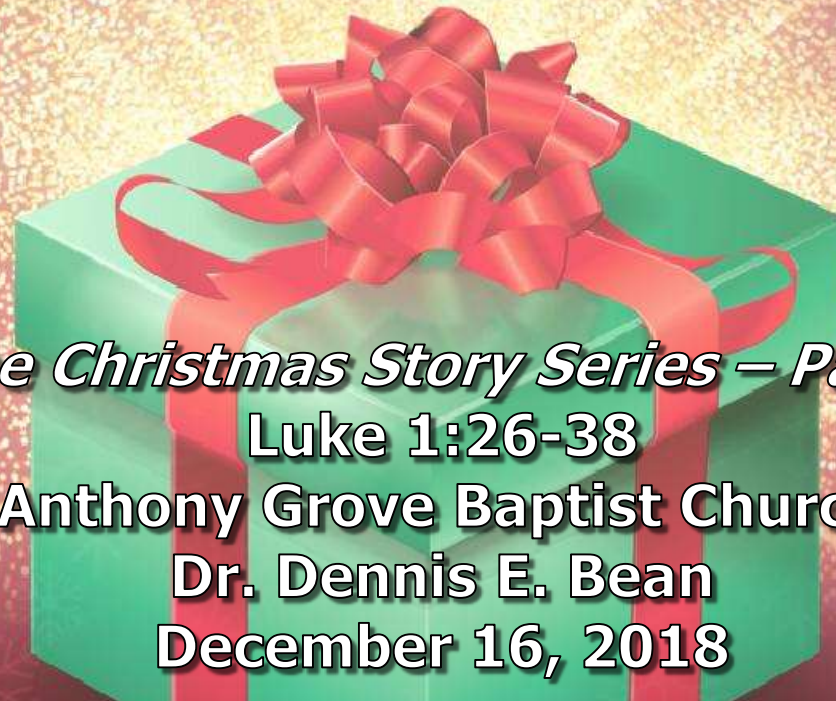


Mary's Christmas Story

(When God Messes Up YOUR Plans)



The Christmas Story Series – Part 2

Luke 1:26-38

Anthony Grove Baptist Church

Dr. Dennis E. Bean

December 16, 2018

Luke 1:26–38

²⁶ In the sixth month of Elizabeth's pregnancy, God sent the angel Gabriel to Nazareth, a village in Galilee, ²⁷ to a virgin named Mary. She was engaged to be married to a man named Joseph, a descendant of King David. ²⁸ Gabriel appeared to her and said, "Greetings, favored woman! The Lord is with you!"



29 Confused and disturbed, Mary tried to think what the angel could mean. 30 “Don’t be afraid, Mary,” the angel told her, “for you have found favor with God! 31 You will conceive and give birth to a son, and you will name him Jesus.



³² He will be very great and will be called the Son of the Most High. The Lord God will give him the throne of his ancestor David. ³³ And he will reign over Israel forever; his Kingdom will never end!" ³⁴ Mary asked the angel, "But how can this happen? I am a virgin."



³⁵ The angel replied, “The Holy Spirit will come upon you, and the power of the Most High will overshadow you. So the baby to be born will be holy, and he will be called the Son of God. ³⁶ What’s more, your relative Elizabeth has become pregnant in her old age! People used to say she was barren, but she has conceived a son and is now in her sixth month.



**37 For the word of God will never fail.” 38
Mary responded, “I am the Lord’s
servant. May everything you have said
about me come true.” And then the
angel left her.-- (NLT)**



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Introduction:

Proverbs 19:21²¹ Many are the plans in a man's heart, but it is the LORD's purpose that prevails.-- (NIV)



1. God Is Trying To Get Your Attention .

**Psalm 81:13¹³ I wish my people would
listen to me; I wish Israel would live my
way.-- (NCV)**



A. Sometimes, Our Plans Are Disrupted.

Luke 1:28–29²⁸ Gabriel appeared to her and said, “Greetings, favored woman! The Lord is with you!” ²⁹ Confused and disturbed, Mary tried to think what the angel could mean.-- (NLT)



B. Often, Our Plans Are Flawed.

**Proverbs 16:25²⁵ There is a path
before each person that seems right,
but it ends in death.-- (NLT)**



C. Often, Our Plans Are Limited.

**Luke 1:34³⁴ Mary asked the angel, "But how can this happen? I am a virgin."--
(NLT)**



Luke 1:37

**37 For nothing is impossible
with God.”-- (NIV)**



2. God Has A Different Plan.

Luke 1:36³⁶ Now Elizabeth, your relative, is also pregnant with a son though she is very old. Everyone thought she could not have a baby, but she has been pregnant for six months.-- (NCV)



Observations About God's Plan

A. God's Plan Is Always Bigger Than Your Plan.

Luke 1:31–32³¹ You will conceive and give birth to a son, and you will name him Jesus. ³² He will be very great and will be called the Son of the Most High. The Lord God will give him the throne of his ancestor David.-- (NLT)



B. God's Plan Is Always Harder Than Your Plan.

Luke 1:34–35³⁴ Mary asked the angel, “But how can this happen? I am a virgin.” ³⁵ The angel replied, “The Holy Spirit will come upon you, and the power of the Most High will overshadow you. So the baby to be born will be holy, and he will be called the Son of God.-- (NLT)



C. God's Plan Is Always More Rewarding Than Your Plan.

Jeremiah 29:11¹¹ For I know the plans I have for you," declares the LORD, "plans to prosper you and not to harm you, plans to give you hope and a future.-- (NIV)



1 Corinthians 2:9

⁹ That is what is meant by the Scriptures which say that no mere man has ever seen, heard, or even imagined what wonderful things God has ready for those who love the Lord.-- (TLB)



3. God Wants You To Trust Him.

Luke 1:38³⁸ Mary said, "I am the Lord's servant, and I am willing to do whatever he wants. May everything you said come true." And then the angel disappeared.



A. God Wants You To Seek Him.

**Jeremiah 29:13¹³ You will seek me
and find me when you seek me with
all your heart.-- (NIV)**



B. God Wants You To Believe Him.

Psalm 138:8⁸ The LORD will work out his plans for my life—for your faithful love, O LORD, endures forever. (NLT)



**“Sometimes you don’t know God is
all you need until God is all you got.”**

- Rick Warren



Hebrews 11:6

⁶ And without faith it is impossible to please God, because anyone who comes to him must believe that he exists and that he rewards those who earnestly seek him.-- (NIV)



Romans 8:28

**28 And we know that all that happens to us is working for our good if we love God and are fitting into his plans.--
(TLB)**



Romans 8:28

**28 And we know that all that happens to us is working for our good if we love God and are fitting into his plans.--
(TLB)**



GOD

HAVE A WONDERFUL WEEK

BLESS

