



LifeGroup Discussion Questions

Mary's Trust: Finding Contentment in Surrender | December 3, 2023

Summary

Pastor Dale performed a first-person narrative in today's sermon, connecting the lives of Miryam of Egypt and Miryam of Nazareth from the point-of-view of a resident of Nazareth. He emphasized the universal longing for contentment and peace amidst life's challenges, highlighting the significance of trust, surrender and finding true contentment through Yeshua (Jesus) as the way to peace in a troubled world.

Scripture

In the sixth month of Elizabeth's pregnancy, God sent the angel Gabriel to Nazareth, a village in Galilee, to a virgin named Mary. She was engaged to be married to a man named Joseph, a descendant of King David. Gabriel appeared to her and said, "Greetings, favored woman! The Lord is with you!" Confused and disturbed, Mary tried to think what the angel could mean. "Don't be afraid, Mary," the angel told her, "for you have found favor with God! You will conceive and give birth to a son, and you will name him Jesus. 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. And he will reign over Israel forever; his Kingdom will never end!" Mary asked the angel, "But how can this happen? I am a virgin." 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. 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. For the word of God will never fail." Mary responded, "I am the Lord's servant. May everything you have said about me come true." And then the angel left her. -Luke 1:26-38 (NLT)

"...Christ is all that matters, and he lives in all of us." -Colossians 3:11 (NLT)

Let's Start

What was something new you learned in the narrative Pastor Dale shared?

Gratitude and Prayer

How has God worked in your life since the last time we were together?

Let's Talk

1. In the narrative, Pastor Dale spoke about the parallel between the lives of Miryam of Egypt and Miryam of Nazareth in their roles as deliverers. How did each Miryam act as a deliverer? How does this reflect God's intervention in unexpected ways?
2. Pastor Dale said that Miryam of Nazareth was an ordinary girl chosen by God for an extraordinary purpose. How does this idea of God using ordinary people resonate with you? Do you believe that God can use anyone for a significant purpose?
3. Trust and surrender were highlighted as key elements to finding contentment. How do you understand the concepts of trust and surrender in your personal life and faith journey?
4. How does the story of Miryam of Nazareth resonate with your own life? Can you relate to unexpected or challenging circumstances leading to a deeper understanding of God's plan?
5. True contentment and peace are not found in circumstances but in surrendering to God's plan. How does this perspective challenge or align with your understanding of finding peace in a troubled world? How can this peace be shared with others?
6. How might the lessons from Miryam's story apply to navigating personal challenges and seeking contentment in today's society?

Let's Act

With whom can you share the contentment and peace that only Jesus Christ can give? Is there an opportunity to invite him/her to Wooddale over the Christmas season?
