

WHY WOULD GOD USE ME?

When God Doesn't Make Sense! - Part 2

Luke 1:26-48 (TLB)

Cross Word Christian Church

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"...God sent the angel Gabriel to Nazareth, a town in Galilee, to a virgin pledged to be married to a man named Joseph... The virgin's name was Mary." Luke 1:26-27 (NIV)

"And she will have a Son, and you shall name him Jesus (meaning 'Savior') for He will save his people from their sins." Matthew 1:21 (TLB)

Mary's initial reaction:

"Confused and disturbed, Mary tried to think what the angel could mean. `Don't be frightened, Mary," the angel told her, `for God has decided to wonderfully bless you!" Luke 1:29-30 (TLB)

What stops me from being used by God:

- * Fear of criticism - "What will people think?"
- * Fear of failure - "How can I handle this?"
- * Fear of change - "How will this affect my life?"

THE TYPE OF PERSON GOD USES:

1. GOD USES PEOPLE WHO WANT TO DO HIS WILL.

"Mary responded, "Oh, how I praise the Lord. How I rejoice in God my Savior! For he took notice of his lowly servant girl, and now generation after generation forever shall call me blest of God." Luke 1:46-48 (TLB)

What do I desire to do most?

2. GOD USES PEOPLE WHO DECIDE TO PAY THE COST. God's Plan: vs. 31-33

Mary's Response:

"Mary said, `I am the Lord's servant, and I am willing to do whatever he wants. May everything you said come true." Luke 1:38 (TLB)

(Jesus) "No one can be my disciple who does not carry his own cross and follow me. But don't begin until you count the cost." Luke 14:27-28a (TLB)

What am I willing to give up?

3. GOD USES PEOPLE WHO WILL TRUST HIS PROMISES.

"Mary asked the angel, "But how can I have a baby? I am a virgin. The angel replied, `The Holy Spirit shall come upon you, and the power of God shall overshadow you... For every promise from God shall surely come true." Luke 1:34-35, 37 (TLB)

"For all the promises of God in Him are Yes, and in Him Amen, to the glory of God through us." 2 Corinthians 1:20 (NKJV)

(Jesus said) "What is impossible with men is possible with God." Luke 18:27 (NIV)

(Elizabeth to Mary) "You believed that God would do what he said; THAT IS WHY he has given you this wonderful blessing." Luke 1:45 (TLB)

This Christmas, and beyond, I will always trust God