

Please reread Luke 1:36-45. Spend time today thinking honestly about these three questions: In what way am I open to God doing a miracle (even if it's not the miracle I'm praying for)? In what way am I hesitating?

What does it mean to be available for God to do a miracle?

How does (or doesn't) my life show that I am expecting God to work miracles in my life?

Thank God today for His miraculous power. Thank Him that He wants to do miracles in your life and through your life. Pray that you'll live in a spirit of willingness.

Please be sure you've finished this week's devotions and know this week's verse (it's a short one, so you can do it!) Please pray for the Women's Tea this weekend. Pray that the women who attend will feel at ease and that the speaker will minister to them. Pray for the services too. Pray that God will use them for His glory and to point people to Christ.

MIRACLE

Are You Ready For a Miracle?

Mark Spurlock
November 29 & 30, 2008

If God wanted to do something miraculous in my life,
_____?

Case Story One: Zechariah

"Once when Zechariah's division was on duty and he was serving as priest before God, he was chosen by lot... to go into the temple of the Lord and burn incense. And when the time for the burning of incense came, all the assembled worshipers were praying outside." *Luke 1:8-10 (NIV)*

"Then an angel of the Lord appeared to him... When Zechariah saw him, he was startled and was gripped with fear. But the angel said to him: 'Do not be afraid, Zechariah; your prayer has been heard. Your wife Elizabeth will bear you a son, and you are to give him the name John... And he will go on before the Lord, in the spirit and power of Elijah — to make ready a people prepared for the Lord.'" *Luke 1:11-13, 17*

- **Zechariah's response:** _____

"How can I be sure of this?" *Luke 1:18a*

- **The result:** _____

"The angel answered, 'I am Gabriel. I stand in the presence of God, and I have been sent to speak to you... And now you will be silent and not able to speak until the day this happens, because you did not believe my words...'" *Luke 1:19-20*

Case Story Two: Mary

"In the sixth month, God sent the angel Gabriel to Nazareth... to a virgin pledged to be married to a man named Joseph... The angel went to her and said, 'Greetings, you who are highly favored! The Lord is with you.' Mary was greatly troubled... But the angel said to her, 'Do not be afraid, Mary, you have found favor with God. You will be with child and give birth to a son, and you are to give him the name Jesus. He will be great and will be called the Son of the Most High...'" *Luke 1:26-32*

- **Mary's response:** _____

"How will this be... since I am a virgin?" *Luke 1:34*

- **The result:** _____

"The Holy Spirit will come upon you, and the power of the Most High will overshadow you."
Luke 1:35a

Am I ready for a miracle? Ask...

- **Am I _____ ?**

“For nothing is impossible with God.” *Luke 1:37*

- **Am I _____ ?**

“I am the Lord’s servant,” Mary answered. ‘May it be to me as you have said.’” *Luke 1:38*

- **Am I _____ ?**

“Blessed is she who has believed that what the Lord has said to her will be accomplished!” *Luke 1:45*

December Events at TLC

DEC. 5-6	CHRISTMAS TEA
DEC. 11-14	CHRISTMAS CONCERT
DEC. 17	CHRISTMAS TRAIN
DEC. 20-21	CANDLELIGHT CHRISTMAS
DEC. 24	CHRISTMAS EVE SERVICES

Daily Meditations

...based on this week’s message

Monday

Please read Luke 1:1-45. What stood out to you most in last weekend’s sermon? Why?

In what way does this passage encourage you?

In what way does it challenge you?

As you go to prayer today, spend some time reflecting on how you relate to God. How do you experience His power in your life? In what way are you afraid to ask Him for a miracle? Remember, He loves you and has amazing plans for you!

Tuesday

Please reread Luke 1:8-20. This is such an interesting story. What do you learn from Zechariah’s encounter with Gabriel?

In what way did Zechariah’s response differ from Mary’s?

We can all relate to Zechariah’s response. God doesn’t demand that we never ask for nor seek proof, but sometimes we hide behind proof because we fear being disappointed or relinquishing control. In what area of your life do you feel as though you’re delaying obedience to something God has asked of you?

In what area of your life do you need to hear God tell you, “Do not be afraid.”? How would that impact your faith?

Thank God today for His love for you. Thank Him too for His power and holiness. Talk with Him about the areas of your life where you’re tempted to delay your obedience to Him. Ask Him to give you the courage and desire to obey and follow Him.

Wednesday

Please read Luke 1:57-66. Imagine the nine months of silence that Zechariah went through. How is his silence finally broken? What impact did his obedience have on those around him?

How does Zechariah’s experience encourage you to follow through in obedience?

Thank God today for the second chances He has given you. Spend some time talking to God about the opportunities you have to obey Him and, in doing so, point people to Him.

Thursday

Please reread Luke 1:26-35. Mary also had an encounter with the angel Gabriel. Carefully read over what Gabriel told her. Write down the phrases of encouragement and hope that Gabriel spoke to Mary.

How does Mary’s response show her acceptance of God’s miracle power?

What was the advantage of Mary’s immediate acceptance of Gabriel’s word to her?

What do you learn from Mary’s encounter with Gabriel?

Thank God today for the opportunity to study and learn from people in the Bible. Ask God to grow your faith and pray that you will live in readiness for God’s miracles. Pray that the desire to obey God will be your first response.



Memory Verse

“For nothing is impossible with God.”
Luke 1:37 (NIV)

continued