

As you think about the area of your life where you are dealing with a seemingly impossible situation, how can these verses encourage you?

What would it look like to trust God in your impossible situation?

*Thank God today for the gift of the Bible and the opportunity to study it. Talk to God about the impossible situation(s) you are currently facing. Ask God to grow your faith and trust in Him. Pray for the peace to rest in His grace and love.*

## Saturday

Please read Matthew 1:18–25 in preparation for this weekend’s sermon. Please pray for this weekend’s services. Pray that God will use our church to continue to reach people in our community and encourage those who are already here! Pray that God will continue to grow your faith and trust in Him.



PART 2

## When God Calls You to the Impossible

DECEMBER 3 & 4, 2011 • MARK SPURLOCK

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

### 1. \_\_\_\_\_ **but nothing is impossible with God.**

In the sixth month, God sent the angel Gabriel to Nazareth, a town in Galilee, to a virgin pledged to be married to a man named Joseph, a descendant of David. The virgin’s name was Mary. The angel went to her and said, “Greetings, you who are **highly favored!** The Lord is with you.” *Luke 1:26–28*

The Greek word for “highly favored” (NIV) is *charitoo*, which means “to show kindness, grace” (*Greek-English Lexicon of the New Testament Based on Semantic Domains*, J. Louw and E. Nida).

*Charitoo* occurs only one other time in the NT, Ephesians 1:6, where it refers to all Christians: “...to the praise of his glorious grace, which he has **freely given** us in the One he loves.”

Mary was **greatly troubled** at his words and **wondered** what kind of greeting this might be. *Luke 1:29*

• **Mary was just as \_\_\_\_\_ by God’s grace as we are!**

And Mary said: “My soul glorifies the Lord and my spirit rejoices in God my Savior for he has been mindful of the humble state of his servant. From now on all generations will call me blessed. *Luke 1:46–48*



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2.

**but nothing is impossible with God.**

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. The Lord God will give him the throne of his father David, and he will reign over the house of Jacob forever; his kingdom will never end." *Luke 1:30-33*

"How will this be," Mary asked the angel, "since I am a virgin?" *Luke 1:34*

The angel answered, "The Holy Spirit will come upon you, and the power of the Most High will overshadow you. So the holy one to be born will be called the Son of God. Even Elizabeth your relative is going to have a child in her old age, and she who was said to be barren is in her sixth month. For nothing is impossible with God." *Luke 1:35-37*

3.

**but nothing is impossible with God.**

"I am the Lord's servant," Mary answered. "May it be to me as you have said." Then the angel left her. *Luke 1:38*

**In what  
is God calling me to trust him?**

## Daily Meditations

### Monday

Please read Luke 1:26-38. What is most striking to you in this amazing story?

What is one thing you learned in last weekend's sermon that impacted you?

How have you traditionally viewed Mary? How did what you learned in last weekend's sermon impact your view of Mary?

*Thank God today for the example of Mary. Thank Him for the fact that nothing is impossible for Him. Pray that as you study Mary's story this week you'll grow in faith and confidence in God.*

### Tuesday

Please read 1:26-29, 46-48 & Ephesians 1:6. It is amazing to know that the same grace extended to Mary has been extended to you!

How did God show grace to Mary? Write down five ways you have been shown grace by God.

Who is someone you're struggling believe God's grace could change? What impact can you envision God's grace having in this person's life?

*Thank God today for the grace He has extended to you. Pray about the people in your life you're struggling to believe God could extend grace to.*

### Wednesday

Please read Luke 1:30-37 & Hebrews 4:15-16. Spend some time today thinking about the immensity of the fact that God came to earth and took on human flesh. How could this miracle give you hope for the seemingly impossible things you're dealing with?

How does it help you to know that God came personally to this earth in Jesus Christ and lived life as a human — just like you have to?

*Thank God today that you are not alone. Thank Him for the truth that He knows and understands what it is like to be human and to struggle.*

### Thursday

Please read Luke 1:38. When do you struggle with trusting God? How does that impact your life?

In what area of your life right now do you need to pray Mary's prayer: "I am the Lord's servant... may it be to me as you have said."?

*Thank God today that He is trustworthy. Talk to Him honestly about the areas you're struggling to trust Him. Pray through the lyrics of this great old hymn: "Tis so sweet to trust in Jesus, and to take Him at His word. Just to rest upon His promise, just to know, "Thus saith the Lord. Jesus, Jesus how I trust Him. How I've proved Him o'er and o'er. Jesus, Jesus, precious Jesus. O for grace to trust Him more."*

### Friday

Please read Isaiah 26:3-4. Here's an amazing thought to roll around in your head — Mary, the mother of Jesus, knew these verses too!

What do these verses tell you about trusting in God?



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

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