

Our theme for today: Nothing Impossible

It's interesting isn't it? Ahaz was told to ask for a sign, and he refused; he was disobedient. Then, if you recall the story of Elizabeth and Zechariah (parents of John the Baptist) you'll see that Zechariah asks for a sign and he ends up mute for three days! But Mary never asked, nor did she resist the signs around her. She simply pondered them. Of course, Mary does receive a sign. It is her older relative Elizabeth's swelling pregnancy... if God could spark new life in a much older woman, surely God could do the same for Mary.

Scripture

³⁶ And now, your relative Elizabeth in her old age has also conceived a son; and this is the sixth month for her who was said to be barren. ³⁷ For nothing will be impossible with God." ³⁸ Then Mary said, "Here am I, the servant of the Lord; let it be with me according to your word." Then the angel departed from her.

Luke 1:36-38

Thought provokers

- Do you see signs around you that affirm God's Word? Do you see signs that you attach to God's Word? Do you see God's Word and then see signs?
 - What are YOU seeing?

Reflections

"For nothing will be impossible with the word spoken by God."

We've all had people come alongside with encouraging words such as, "you can do it, go for it, it will be ok!" The words help, but sometimes we might yet feel helpless. It doesn't matter what the other person says, you might feel that it really is impossible. So, even if Gabriel came to you in your *impossible* situation, you could still say, "Yeah, right! That's not going to happen!" But it's not really Gabriel who is making the claim, it is God Himself – nothing will be impossible **with** God – the author, creator, sovereign, everlasting, never-ending, all omnipotent, all-seeing, all-knowing, transcendent, King of Kings and Lord of Lords – nothing is impossible **with** Him!

So far, in all of these devotionals, and even in the ones to come, are you sensing it much about our being **with** God?

Do you remember the story of Abraham and Sarah? God came to them and announced that they would have a child, Isaac. When the Lord announced the impending birth of Isaac, Sarah laughed! Here's how the Lord responded in that situation, "Is anything too wonderful for

Yahweh?” (Genesis 18:14—see also Jesus’ comment at Luke 18:27). This is truly the Gospel—Good News for those of us who find ourselves in impossible situations, isn't it? Ever been caught between a rock and a hard place? Ever felt what it’s like to be in an untenable situation with no exit—trapped? Remember, as we walk **with** the Lord, no situation is beyond redemption. Nothing is impossible **with** God! Today, is your life **with** Him?

Prayer and Song

Take time to pray and sing praises to Him. Here is one we’ve provided by Frances Ridley Havergal.

Take my life and let it be

*Take my life and let it be
consecrated, Lord, to thee.
Take my moments and my days;
let them flow in endless praise,
let them flow in endless praise.*

*Take my hands and let them move
at the impulse of thy love.
Take my feet and let them be
swift and beautiful for thee,
swift and beautiful for thee.*

*Take my voice and let me sing
always, only, for my King.
Take my lips and let them be
filled with messages from thee,
filled with messages from thee.*

*Take my silver and my gold;
not a mite would I withhold.
Take my intellect and use
every power as thou shalt choose,
every power as thou shalt choose.*

*Take my will and make it thine;
it shall be no longer mine.
Take my heart it is thine own;
it shall be thy royal throne,
it shall be thy royal throne.*

*Take my love; my Lord, I pour
at thy feet its treasure store.
Take myself, and I will be
ever, only, all for thee,
ever, only, all for thee.*