

What Men Can Learn from the Most Amazing Girl in His-Story

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Exchanging Difficulties for Impossibilities (Part Three)

“For nothing will be impossible with God.” (Luke 1: 37 NASB)

The Difficulty: Biblical experts put her age as young as thirteen—no older than sixteen. By our standards today, if age is the discriminator, she was just a girl. But God in His infinite wisdom chose Mary, out of all her gender who came before or would follow, to be the earthly mother to bring His Son into the world. Wow! is about all that comes to mind.

This divine decision brought huge, possibly horrific, consequences. She was unmarried, although engaged to Joseph.

She was a virgin and planned to remain that way until she and Joseph were married. If what this angel said came true, she would face embarrassment, ridicule, and, possibly, death.

The Impossibility: Who would believe such a ridiculous story from Mary? *“An angel showed up, told me God was going to get me pregnant, and I will give birth to the long-awaited Messiah.”* Let’s review this: (1) talking angel from God, (2) pregnant virgin, (3) and that with the Son of God-Messiah. Who among us would believe such a story?

Mary’s Response:

“And Mary said, “Behold, the bondservant of the Lord; may it be done to me according to your word.” (Luke 1:38 NASB)

Regardless of her physical age, here we are introduced to a very godly, young woman. No wonder she “found favor with the

Lord.” (v. 30) Mary’s praise and prayer (known as the Magnificat vs 46-55) speak to her spiritual maturity as she quotes scriptures and accepts this incredibly difficult, yet awesome, assignment and responsibility. No equivocating or fear. Just incredible faith that her God was real and would do what He promised. Again, I say, Wow!

Our Response: What then do men of God learn from such a woman of God? Let me suggest (at least) three things. No matter how difficult our circumstances or God’s assignment may be today, our response must be that of Mary.

- ***Surrender*** our will to God’s will—His sovereignty.
- ***Submit*** our lives as “living sacrifices” as the Apostle Paul urged, and Mary demonstrated.
- ***Serve*** the Lord with gladness as David exclaimed and as Mary lived.

So easily said. So hard to live. Let us die trying.

LORD, thank You for incredible difficulties that grace our lives—particularly those that come at the worst times and are most unwelcome. Give us Mary’s strength and courage to walk in faith knowing, as she discovered nine months later, there really is “*nothing impossible with God.*” Amen.

Walter