

1. We must control our _____. (vv. 26-33)

What did Mary have to be _____ of?

We will also have _____ when confronted by God with the impossible.

What was Mary's source of strength that enabled her to defeat her fears?

- First, was her faith in God's promises (an _____ test).
- Second, was her own close walk with God (a _____ test).
- Third, she was soon able to see God working in the circumstances around her (a test of _____).

There are three beacons that God has given to guide us when He is taking us into impossible waters:

- The first is _____, the objective standard by which we determine God's will in all things.
- The second is the _____ in us, a subjective witness within us by whom we sense His will.
- The third is _____, or Divine Providence.

When _____ beacons are in agreement, we can proceed with confidence.

Never doubt in the _____ what God has shown you in the light.

2. Impossible doesn't mean _____. (vv. 34-37)

Mary simply wanted to _____ about what was going to happen to her.

But notice that complete understanding of God's plan was _____ necessary.

Like Mary, we should be willing to ask the _____ questions in the face of the impossible, too.

But we shouldn't insist on knowing every _____ once we're sure God is leading.

God is willing to supply _____ we need to believe in Him, but He wants us to obey by faith.

3. Submission to God brings _____. (vv. 38ff)

_____ is always our proper response when we become aware of God's will for us.

Blessings are _____ the result when we submit to God.

Calvary Connection Group
Discussion Questions for the week of Dec. 18, 2022

Getting to Know Me

- Are you a beach or a mountain person? Why?
- Have you ever been aware of the presence of an angel, or been aware of being protected by God's power in a special way that could have been angelic? How did that happen?

Into the Bible

- What one thing stood out to you in this week's sermon as something important to understand and apply?

- Mary is obviously an important person in the Bible and one from whom we can learn much. But the Catholic church practically deifies her, saying that she herself was without original sin because she was virgin born (Immaculate Conception) and that she remained a virgin after Jesus' birth (Perpetual Virginity). They claim that she is a Mediatrix, a co-mediator in our salvation through Jesus Christ. They believe other unbiblical things about her as well. What does the Bible say about these things? (Matt. 1:25; 13:55-56; John 2:12; Rom. 3:10-12, 23; 1 Tim. 2:5)

- One of the most common questions people have is, "How can I know what the will of God is for me?" We touched on this with the 3 Lights illustration. These help us discern God's will when the Bible doesn't give clear direction on a particular question. But the Bible has some pretty straightforward answers to that question that we sometimes ignore. What is God's will for everyone, all the time? (Rom. 12:1-2; 1 Cor. 12:4-11; Eph. 5:15-21; 1 Thess. 4:3; Heb. 12:5-11; 1 Pet. 2:15; 2 Pet. 3:9)

- When Zacharias questioned Gabriel, he got rebuked and disciplined for it (Luke 1:18-20). When Mary questioned Gabriel, with nearly the same question (1:34-37), she got a straight answer, a sign to help her believe, and a reminder of God's power. What is the difference between the two questions and questioners?

Application

- In what area do you find yourself in need of God's guidance today? Or in what area have you most needed God's guidance in your life? How is He or how has He shown you His will?

- What questions do you have for God? What should be your attitude toward the things about God and His ways that you don't understand?