Tithes and Offerings







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CHURCH OF THE NAZARENE



Order of Worship December 24, 2024 The Nativity of the Lord

We Gather to Worship God

Welcome
Call and Response/Advent Reading

Lighting of the Christ Candle Worship in Song Scripture Reading

We Listen to the Word

Prayer

Sermon Series: Back to the Future Christmas Eve: Controlling Christmas

We Come to the Table

Prayer of Confession and Consecration
The Lord's Prayer
We Eat and Drink Together
We Celebrate the Eucharist in Song

We Share the Light of Christ

Worship in Song Blessing and Sending

Words to music, responsive readings and The Lord's Prayer will be on the screen



For a complete list of ongoing ministries and upcoming events, please visit tablelifechurch.org.

Doggy Bag-Some questions to chew on:



- 1. If total trust is a 0, and total control is a 10, where do you land on the control scale? Have you ever made a mess by trying to control something or someone?
- 2. What questions do you think were swirling through Mary's mind when the angel came to her?
- 3. How was God faithful to Mary in the things beyond her control? How has God been faithful to you?
- 4. What are you trying to control that is outside your control? What is your part and what is God's part?
- 5. What are you trying to control that you need to surrender to God?

If you'd like to talk personally and confidentially w/Pastor Kris about your relationship with Christ, please email pastorkris@tablelifechurch.org or call 717-774-6444

Back to the Future Controlling Christmas Pastor Kris Beckert

What area of your past, present, or future are you trying to control?

- I. Israel couldn't _____ when or how Christmas would come
 - Over 300 prophecies spoke of Jesus' coming in the centuries before the first Christmas
 - God went silent for 400 years after Malachi

Isaiah 7:14. Therefore the Lord himself will give you a sign: The virgin will conceive and give birth to a son, and will call him Emmanuel.

| • | This prophecy | / was fulfilled with | |
|---|---------------|----------------------|--|
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II. Mary couldn't _____ what would happen when she said yes to God

Luke 1:26-32, 34-35, 38 In the sixth month of Elizabeth's pregnancy, God sent the angel Gabriel to Nazareth, a village in Galilee, ²⁷ to a virgin named Mary. She was engaged to be married to a man named Joseph, a descendant of King David. ²⁸ Gabriel appeared to her and said, "Greetings, favored woman! The Lord is with you!" ²⁹ Confused and disturbed, Mary tried to think what the angel could mean. ³⁰ "Don't be afraid, Mary," the angel told her, "for you have found favor with God! ³¹ You will conceive and give birth to a son, and you will name him Jesus. ³² He will be very great and will be called the Son of the Most High... ³⁴ Mary asked the angel, "But

how can this happen? I am a virgin." ³⁵ The angel replied, "The Holy Spirit will come upon you, and the power of the Most High will overshadow you. So the baby to be born will be holy, and he will be called the Son of God... ³⁸ Mary responded, "I am the Lord's servant. May everything you have said about me come true."

Luke 1:38 (ESV) And Mary said, "Behold I am the servant of the Lord! **Let it be** to me according to your word."

- Mary was an ordinary teenage girl in an arranged marriage
- She had a lot to lose
- She didn't know the _____ of the story like we do

III. Mary didn't have the power to _____ but she had the power to _____

Matthew 10:39 "If you cling to your life, you will lose it; but if you give up your life for me, you will find it."

Luke 22:42 "Father, if you are willing, take this cup from me; yet not my will, but yours be done."

• ginomai = Mary's "let it be" & Jesus' "your will be done"

| Big | Idea: | | | | |
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