

The Unexpected Gift
Luke 1:26-38, 46-55
Illuminate Week 4

We need _____ else we can _____ on to

“I am the Lord’s servant. Let everything you’ve said happen to me.” Luke 1:38 (God’s Word Translation)

Mary’s “_____” was the most stunning, startling,
_____ gift that has ever been _____.

“Happy families are all alike; every unhappy family is unhappy
in its own way.” – Leo Tolstoy

What makes life memorable, and what makes each and every
Christmas celebration _____, is what goes
_____; is what comes _____; is how you
handle the _____.

*“I am the Lord’s servant,” Mary answered. “May it be to me as you
have said.”* – Luke 1:38

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Christmas celebration _____, is what goes
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“26 In the sixth month, God sent the angel Gabriel to Nazareth, a town in Galilee, 27 to a virgin pledged to be married to a man named Joseph, a descendant of David. The virgin’s name was Mary. 28 The angel went to her and said, “Greetings, you who are highly favored! The Lord is with you.” 29 Mary was greatly troubled at his words and wondered what kind of greeting this might be. 30 But the angel said to her, “Do not be afraid, Mary, you have found favor with God. 31 You will be with child and give birth to a son, and you are to give him the name Jesus. 32 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, 33 and he will reign over the house of Jacob forever; his kingdom will never end.” 34 “How will this be,” Mary asked the angel, “since I am a virgin?” 35 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. 36 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. 37 For nothing is impossible with God.” 38 “I am the Lord’s servant,” Mary answered. “May it be to me as you have said.” Then the angel left her...46 And Mary said: “My soul glorifies the Lord 47 and my spirit rejoices in God my Savior, 48 for he has been mindful of the humble state of his servant. From now on all generations will call me blessed, 49 for the Mighty One has done great things for me— holy is his name. 50 His mercy extends to those who fear him, from generation to generation. 51 He has performed mighty deeds with his arm; he has scattered those who are proud in their inmost thoughts. 52 He has brought down rulers from their thrones but has lifted up the humble. 53 He has filled the hungry with good things but has sent the rich away empty. 54 He has helped his servant Israel, remembering to be merciful 55 to Abraham and his descendants forever, even as he said to our fathers.”

We need SOMEONE else we can HANG on to

"I am the Lord's servant. Let everything you've said happen to me."
Luke 1:38 (God's Word Translation)

Mary's "UNEXPECTED GIFT" was the most stunning, startling,
TRANSFORMING gift that has ever been RECEIVED.

"Happy families are all alike; every unhappy family is unhappy in its
own way." – Leo Tolstoy

What makes life memorable, and what makes each and every
Christmas celebration EXCEPTIONAL, is what goes WRONG; is what
comes UNEXPECTED; is how you handle the UNWANTED.

*"Sacrifice and offering You did not desire; My ears You have opened.
Burnt offering and sin offering You did not require. Then I said,
"Behold, I come; In the scroll of the book it is written of me. I delight
to do Your will, O my God, And Your law is within my heart. I delight
or desire to do your will, O my God; your law is within my heart."
– Psalm 40:6-8*