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## Principles Of Receiving - Mary

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We are in the season of the year that the birth of Jesus is being honored and as we are put in remembrance of the events that took place during that time, Mary and Joseph had been chosen by the Lord to be involved in the birth. In the book of Matthew we find that Joseph is mentioned in the lineage of Jesus, however, in Luke we find that Jesus' lineage is passed down through Mary. The angel of the Lord has spoken to Mary, telling her what is to come and an angel spoke to Joseph in a dream explaining what was going on and that he was to honor her. We also find that Zacharias and Elisabeth have received a word from the Lord regarding the birth of their son, John who was to be used before Jesus came into his ministry, John preached repentance and baptism.

The book of Luke mostly tells Mary, Zacharias and Elisabeth, the book of Matthew is mostly tells about the birth of Jesus, the years as a young child and the wise men who came to find Jesus.

The angel had come to Zacharias and Elisabeth telling them that they were going to have a child, they had no children and were past the child bearing years, they were to have a miracle. But because of Zacharias not believing what the angel had told them, he was unable to speak for a period of time, until after the birth of John. This kept him from speaking doubt and unbelief, he had to be in agreement with what God had told them.

When the angel came to Mary, Elisabeth was probably in her sixth month of pregnancy. Mary probably did not understand the greeting that the angel had for her, but he continued to speak telling her not to be afraid and her fear had to be displaced.

Luke 1:28-45 "And the angel came in unto her, and said, Hail, thou that art highly favoured, the Lord is with thee; blessed art thou among women. 29 And when she saw him, she was troubled at his saying, and cast in her mind what manner of salutation this should be. 30 And the angel said

unto her, Fear not, Mary: for thou hast found favour with God. 31 And, behold, thou shalt conceive in thy womb, and bring forth a son, and shalt call his name Jesus. 32 He shall be great, and shall be called the Son of the Highest: and the Lord God shall give unto him the throne of his father David: 33 And he shall reign over the house of Jacob for ever; and of his kingdom there shall be no end. 34 Then said Mary unto the angel, How shall this be, seeing I know not a man? 35 And the angel answered and said unto her, The Holy Ghost shall come upon thee, and the power of the Highest shall overshadow thee: therefore also that holy thing which shall be born of thee shall be called the Son of God. 36 And, behold, thy cousin Elisabeth, she hath also conceived a son in her old age: and this is the sixth month with her, who was called barren. 37 For with God nothing shall be impossible. 38 And Mary said, Behold the handmaid of the Lord; be it unto me according to thy word. And the angel departed from her. 39 And Mary arose in those days, and went into the hill country with haste, into a city of Juda; 40 And entered into the house of Zacharias, and saluted Elisabeth. 41 And it came to pass, that, when Elisabeth heard the salutation of Mary, the babe leaped in her womb; and Elisabeth was filled with the Holy Ghost: 42 And she spake out with a loud voice, and said, Blessed art thou among women, and blessed is the fruit of thy womb. 43 And whence is this to me, that the mother of my Lord should come to me? 44 For, lo, as soon as the voice of thy salutation sounded in mine ears, the babe leaped in my womb for joy. 45 And blessed is she that believed: for there shall be a performance of those things which were told her from the Lord." KJV

v. 34 "Then said Mary unto the angel, How shall this be, seeing I know not a man?"

Mary questioned the angel as to how this could be? It will be by the Holy Ghost. It will be supernatural and miraculous. He encouraged her telling her about her cousin Elisabeth, who was pregnant and that with God nothing was impossible.

v. 35 " And the angel answered and said unto her, The Holy Ghost shall come upon thee, and the power of the Highest shall overshadow thee: therefore also that holy thing which shall be born of thee shall be called the Son of God."

The angel explained her what would be happening, how the Holy Ghost would be involved with the miracle.

v. 37 " For with God nothing is ever impossible and no word from God shall be without power or impossible of fulfillment." AMP

v. 38 "And Mary said, Behold the handmaid of the Lord; be it unto me according to thy word. And the angel departed from her."

This was the response that Mary told the angel, she accepted what she had been told. She let her body be the vessel to which the miracle of Jesus' birth would take place. This is probably the time of conception was taking place.

v. 39-40 "And Mary arose in those days, and went into the hill country with haste, into a city of Juda; 40 And entered into the house of Zacharias, and saluted Elisabeth. 41 And it came to pass, that, when Elisabeth heard the salutation of Mary, the babe leaped in her womb; and Elisabeth was filled with the Holy Ghost:"

v. 45 "And blessed is she that believed: for there shall be a performance of those things which were told her from the Lord."

She immediately got up and went to her cousins house telling Elisabeth what had taken place at which time when Elisabeth heard, she was filled with the Holy Ghost as her baby leaped in her. Mary chose to get with people who believed as she did, not listening to those who would cause doubt and unbelief. She kept her switch of faith turned on because she was believing for the miracle to be manifested that she had been promised.

We are highly favored by God, favor following us wherever we go, the question is are we going to believe God when He gets ready to use us in a miraculous way and change a situation around in our lives that is not favorable? We are being called, as a congregation and individually to step up to a higher level. He has confidence that we can do whatever he is calling us for and when God gives a word, it is going to be the finished product not what is right now. We have started the journey to receive the finished product, but there will be situations along the way that we will have to deal with. When we know what God has said, that we are favored, that He has confidence in us, and we are blessed, that will bring encouragement to us. If we are going to inherit what God has promised us we have to walk in faith, fear has to be displaced. We cannot walk in faith and fear at the same time. With God nothing is impossible and no word from God is without power, the word that He gives to us has the power to bring to pass what He has promised.

Why are people not receiving what they are praying about? It is because of doubt and unbelief. We must have an good attitude of what has been said to us, willing to receive what God has told us, even though it may be awhile before it is manifested.

In the nighttime hours we are encouraged to hang on to our dreams, hold on to them, for He has seen our believing and our desires and we are favored, we have been graced and blessed, so hold on to your dreams for it will surely come to pass in time. It may look impossible as we begin to take the journey, we see progress little by little, but keep the switch of faith turned on. God is working for you.

Abraham and Sarah had been without children, but God had given them a promise. They tried to do things in the natural which resulted in problems later. Anything we do in the natural to try to bring to pass anything that is not God, it just puts things on hold, it is better to be slow and follow God, than having to undo mistakes by getting ahead of God.

Rom 4:19-20 "And being not weak in faith, he considered not his own body now dead, when he was about an hundred years old, neither yet the deadness of Sarah's womb: 20 He staggered not at the promise of God through unbelief; but was strong in faith, giving glory to God;" KJV

v. 18 "Who against hope believed in hope, that he might become the father of many nations, according to that which was spoken, So shall thy seed be. ' KJV

Abraham had his switch of faith turned on, his faith was based on what God had told him, he was believing for the miracle of a son. Our confession is we are going to keep believing God, we shall say just like Mary, be it unto us just like you said, we are more than conquerors, we can do all things through Christ, because He strengthens us.