

Rolling Hills Community Church
“A Season of Thanks and Giving” Series
December 17, 2006

Giving Sacrificially
Luke 1:26-38

Vs. 26-28

“In the sixth month, God sent the angel Gabriel to Nazareth, a town in Galilee, to a virgin pledged to be married to a man named Joseph, a descendent of David. The virgin’s name was Mary. The angel went to her and said, ‘Greetings, you who are highly favored! The Lord is with you.’”

The danger is that we make two mistakes when it comes to Mary:

1. Some people magnify Mary
 - a. Doctrine of the Immaculate Conception
 - b. Doctrine of Permanent Sinlessness
 - c. Doctrine of Perpetual Virginit
 - d. Doctrine of the AssumptionDoctrines of Co-Redeemer with Christ and to the worship of Mary
2. Some people minimize Mary
Mary was an incredible woman that God used powerfully in His redemptive story. We can learn so much from her obedience and from the way she gave herself sacrificially to the will of God!

Vs. 29-33

“Mary was greatly troubled at his words and wondered what kind of greeting this might be. But the angel said to her, ‘Do not be afraid, Mary, you have found favor with God. You will be with child and give him the name Jesus. 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, and he will reign over the house of Jacob forever; his kingdom will never end. ‘How can this be,’ Mary asked the angel, ‘since I am a virgin?’”

Four major fears that Mary faced, and the fears we face if we truly give ourselves to God:

1. The fear of losing control
2. The fear of change
3. The fear of criticism
4. The fear of lack of confidence

Vs. 38

“‘I am the Lord’s servant,’ Mary answered, ‘May it be to me as you have said.’ Then the angel left her.”

Why did God use Mary?

1. She was humble
2. She was willing
3. She gave herself completely to the Lord’s will in her life

“...remembering the words the Lord Jesus himself said, ‘It is more blessed to give than to receive.’” Acts 20:35