

What Did Mary Know?

Scripture: Matthew 1:14-16

“Jacob the father of Joseph, the husband of Mary, and Mary was the mother of Jesus who is called the Messiah.”

We considered last week what Joseph “knew” about Jesus, as he experienced the birth of the Son of God. Even closer to the project was his wife, Mary. She was chosen to be what the Greeks called the “Theotokos.”

What did Mary know about the child she was going to bear? What do we need to know about Mary?

And most of all what do we know about the Jesus being formed in us?

What did Mary know? And what should you know, about what God wants to “bear” through you?

Let’s look at this morning, as we look at “Mary the Mother of Jesus.”

The second character we’re going to look at, as we look at The Characters of Christmas: Joseph, Mary, Jesus, and You!

I. What did Mary know about the child she was going to bear? Luke 1:28-33

II. What did Mary need to know? Luke 1:34-37

III. How Did Mary Respond?

Acceptance of God’s will – Luke 1:38

Going where the Spirit was working – Luke 1:39-46

IV. What Did Mary Come To See?

Her Life in the Context of God’s Plan: Her Part to Play – Luke 1:48-66

V. What Do We Need To Know about Mary? <https://www.onfaith.co/discussion/10-things-i-wish-everyone-knew-about-mary-mother-of-jesus>

VI. What Do We Need To Know About God’s Work Through Us?

a. Acceptance of God’s Will In Our Lives

b. Living our lives in the Context of God’s Will

i. Where we live.

ii. Who we associate with.

iii. Changing our plans to accord with God’s plan.

iv. An attitude of faith-filled response

VII. A Phrase to Live By Luke 1:38

Sunday, November 19

Healing Power – DO YOU TRULY WANT TO BE MADE WELL?

Scripture: John 5:1-8

Jesus was sent to heal us. Not just physically. But spiritually too! But sometimes, people don’t want to be healed. They are “comfortable” where they are. Jesus one time even asked a man the question: DO YOU WANT TO BE HEALED? It was a legitimate question because it’s easy to fall into a trap when trials hit. It’s easier to become a victim, rather than the creator in healing relationship God wants you to be. We studied John 5:1-8 this Sunday. And we learned:

Sometimes people’s problems are not just physical, but “spiritual.” (Luke 13:10-17)

The problems that result are very real. Some would call this psycho-somatic illness. Others would call it “imagi-

nary.” The Bible calls it a spirit of infirmity and some have even speculated it was demon related. The Bible, and commentators, have much to say about the role of a person’s “spirit” and its impact on our health. (Proverbs 18:14)

So we speculated. Was the man’s illness an actual physical illness? Or an illness that had become “physical” because of a broken, traumatized or saddened spirit?

Jesus used some profound insight and said (as recorded in John 5): 6 When Jesus saw him lying there, and knew that he already had been in that condition a long time, He said to him, “Do you want to be made well?”

There are ways of being victims of our circumstances.

And there are ways to be “co-creators” with God, in a relationship with others willing to help, to live empowered lives IN SPITE of our circumstances.

LEARNING and living THE spirit OF THANKS LIVING in any circumstances facilitates our road to healing.

Philippians 4:6-7 New King James Version (NKJV)

6 Be anxious for nothing, but in everything by prayer and supplication, with thanksgiving, let your requests be made known to God; 7 and the peace of God, which surpasses all understanding, will guard your hearts and minds through Christ Jesus.