



May Your Word to Me Be Fulfilled

Week 2

How Did it Go? *(10 Minutes)*

Did you do any of these practices? If so, what effect did it have? If not, what got in the way?

- Did you meditate on Joseph's quiet obedience in Matthew 1 & 2, and ask God to show you times where obedience to Him requires action rather than words?
- Did you ask God to show you ways you are putting off His call to help someone in a difficult situation?
- Did you pray for Alpha?
- Were you able to put the passage into practice in another way?

Read

Read aloud the passage for this week, **Luke 1:26-38 and Luke 1:46-55.**

Head *(15-20 Minutes)*

Observe the text and the author's main points.

1. What are the details of the angel's message?
2. What are some of the emotions you can imagine Mary experiencing in this passage? (See verses 29, 34, and 38.)
3. What does Mary's response in verse 38 tell us about her thoughts and attitudes toward God? In other words, what would she need to believe about God in order to respond in this way?

Heart *(15-20 Minutes)*

Envision how the text - when applied - might transform your inner life in terms of your thoughts, attitudes, and behaviors.

1. God delights in working through regular people who are simply willing to help and to serve. God is not looking for how “wonderful” we are, but how willing we are to do His will. How does that reframe the way you think and feel about serving Him?
2. What happens within us when we recognize that the LORD of the universe is also the LORD of our lives? How does this impact how we use our time, talents, resources?
3. What gets in the way from you responding to God: “Yes, I am available. Yes, I am willing. I surrender,” like Mary did?

Hands *(10 Minutes)*

Apply the text by moving from inward reflection to outward action looking for ways to live the text out in our lives to serve others.

Reaching Upwards: Growing in Your Relationship with God

- Meditate on Mary’s response on verse 38. Where is the Holy Spirit nudging you to be available and surrender to God’s will like Mary?

Reaching Outward: Investing in Your Neighbors

- How can you apply this idea that God delights in working through willing people in order to serve someone in your community? What can you do this week if you don’t have to be “wonderful” but are simply focused on being “willing”?

Reaching Beyond

- Based on this study of Mary, what other ways is the Holy Spirit encouraging you to be more faithful in following God?

Alpha Prayer Points

Thank you for praying! Your prayers have made a tangible difference.

- Praise God for sending 70 people to the fall Alpha. Praise God for the approximately 45 non-Christians or searching-Christians that attended—the highest number so far. This is a huge testimony to your prayers!
- As fall Alpha concludes, pray for the participants to remain connected in community, and to specifically get plugged into FPC or another faith community. This is an especially challenging transition (for all churches)—it’s when many people tend to drop out or stall out in their faith journey.
- Pray that FPC covenant partners are alert and sensitive to the Holy Spirit during this Advent-Christmas season to build relationships and have spiritual conversations with visitors, non-Christians, searching Christians, doubting Christians, neighbors and others.