

ADVENT

LOVE

“God so Loved the World”

Week #2 of Advent

Wait . . .(Watch)



Receive (Exchange)



RUN! (Commit)



The Fruit of the Spirit

- ²² But the fruit of the Spirit is
- **love**, joy, peace,
- patience, kindness, goodness,
- faithfulness, ²³ gentleness, self-control;
- against such things there is no law. (Galatians 5:22-23)

**Love is a commitment
exemplified through action**



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Love is a commitment exemplified through action

- ¹⁶ **"For God so loved the world,** that **he gave** his only Son, that whoever believes in him should not perish but have eternal life. ¹⁷ For God did not send his Son into the world to condemn the world, but in order that the world might be saved through him.

--John 3:16-17

ESV

Be Not Afraid:

Mary to give birth to the Messiah (what?)

- ²⁶ In the sixth month the angel Gabriel was sent from God to a city of Galilee named Nazareth, ²⁷ to a virgin betrothed^[b] to a man whose name was Joseph, of the house of David. And the virgin's name was Mary. ²⁸ And he came to her and said, "Greetings, O favored one, the Lord is with you!"^[c] ²⁹ But she was greatly troubled at the saying, and tried to discern what sort of greeting this might be. ³⁰ And the angel said to her, "**Do not be afraid, Mary**" (Luke 1:26-30a)

Be Not Afraid: Joseph to marry Mary (what?)

- ¹⁸ Now the birth of Jesus Christ took place in this way. When his mother Mary had been betrothed to Joseph, before they came together, she was found to be with child from the Holy Spirit. ¹⁹ And her husband Joseph, being a just man and unwilling to put her to shame, resolved to divorce her quietly. ²⁰ But as he considered these things, behold, an angel of the Lord appeared to him in a dream, saying, "Joseph, son of David, **do not fear to take Mary as your wife, for that which is conceived in her is from the Holy Spirit.**

--Matthew

1:18-20

Be Not Afraid: Old Testament Passage

- Be strong and courageous. **Do not be frightened**, and do not be dismayed, for the LORD your God is with you wherever you go.
(Joshua 1:9)

Takeaway:

Be Not Afraid, for God is with us

- He has said, "**I will never leave you nor forsake you.**" ⁶ So we can confidently say,
- "The Lord is my helper;
I will not fear;
what can man do to me?" (Hebrews 13:5-6)

God Loves and Chooses You: Mary

- “for **you have found favor** with God.” (Luke 1:30b)

God Loves and Chooses You: Joseph

- ²⁰ But as he considered these things, behold, an angel of the Lord appeared to him in a dream, saying, “**Joseph, son of David,** do not fear to take Mary as your wife, for that which is conceived in her is from the Holy Spirit. (Matthew 1:20)

God Loves and Chooses You: Old Testament Passage

- ⁵ "Behold, the days are coming, declares the LORD, when **I will raise up for David a righteous Branch**, and he shall reign as king and deal wisely, and shall execute justice and righteousness in the land.

--Jeremiah 23:5

Takeaway:

We love God because He first loved us

- ¹⁰ In this is love, not that we have loved God but that he loved us and sent his Son to be the propitiation for our sins. . . ¹³ By this we know that we abide in him and he in us, because he has given us of his Spirit. (1 John 4:10,13)

God Blesses the World through Your Obedience: Mary

- **The Messiah establishes God's kingdom** (Luke 1:31-37)
- 31. And behold, you will conceive in your womb and bear a son, and you shall call his name Jesus. 32. He will be great and will be called the Son of the Most High. And the Lord God will give to him the throne of his father David, **33. and he will reign over the house of Jacob forever, and of his kingdom there will be no end.**

God Blesses the World through Your Obedience: Joseph

- **The Savior wipes away humanity's sins**
- **21. She will bear a son and you shall call his name Jesus, for he will save his people from their sins. (Matthew 1:21)**

God Blesses the World through Your Obedience:

- **New Testament passage on the Savior:**
- ¹⁴ And we have seen and testify that the Father has sent his Son to be the Savior of the world. ¹⁵ **Whoever confesses that Jesus is the Son of God, God abides in him, and he in God.** (1 John 4:14-15)

Takeaway:

God invites us to be part of His plan of salvation

And who knows whether you have not come to the kingdom for such a time as this?" (Esther 4:14b)

Love is commitment exemplified through action

- **Mary: a servant of the Lord**
- 38. And Mary said, “Behold, I am the servant of the Lord; **let it be to me according to your word.**” And the angel departed from her.
(Luke 1:38)

Love is commitment exemplified through action

- **Joseph: a servant of the Lord**
- 24. When Joseph woke from sleep, **he did as the angel of the Lord commanded him:** he took his wife, 25. but knew her not until she had given birth to a son. And he called his name Jesus (Matthew 1:24-25).

Love is commitment exemplified through action

- **Choose this day whom you will serve . . .** But as for me and my house, we will serve the LORD. (Joshua 24:15)



Takeaway:
Be All In
For the
Lord!

— Eric Liddell
(from
Chariots of Fire)

Let Us Pray

