

December 2019 Newsletter Story



Northlake Crisis Pregnancy Center

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A Note from the Executive Director

Every Christmas I like to reflect on Mary and the incredible privilege that she was given to be chosen as the mother of God in the flesh. I think of my sons, and how special and intimate our bond is. Mary got to experience this same bond with Jesus! It's almost too much to comprehend! It's so easy to idealize the story when thinking about these things, or looking at a beautiful nativity scene. But when I reflect upon the other elements of the story, I am reminded that Mary's willingness to say yes to God is one of the greatest acts of courage in the Bible.

Mary was a young teen engaged to be married and planning her wedding. This was a beautiful and carefree time in her life. She and Joseph were righteous people who had honored God with their relationship and had good reputations in their community. God's request to impregnate Mary with Jesus could jeopardize all of that. Naturally everyone would assume that Mary had been unfaithful to Joseph, or that they had not honored God with their relationship. Either way, Mary's reputation was at stake, and her alleged crime could be punishable by death. And what about Joseph? He would know that he was not responsible for Mary's condition. What would he say? Would he still be willing to marry her? Was she willing to give him up if it would come to that? And what about the child? Would He not carry the stigma of illegitimacy with Him throughout His entire life? There must have been a moment when all of Mary's dreams for the future flashed before her mind, and she could see every one of them shattered.

The question boils down to one thing for Mary: "Can I trust God to work out every problem I encounter if I submit myself to His will?" So many of the women that we serve here at the Pregnancy Center experience a tremendous amount of fear as they decide how to proceed with their pregnancy. While the circumstances are very different, the question that they have to answer is the same as the one Mary had to answer. "Can I trust God to work this out?" The answer for Mary was yes, but not because her circumstance was so special, but because it was the will of God. It is always the will of God for a woman to choose life for her baby, and just like Mary, when she walks in the will of God, she can rest in His protection and provision.

This is a difficult truth to embrace when we are faced with circumstances that seem impossible, especially when those circumstances are created by our sin. We must remember that Jesus died to wipe away those sins, and that there is no circumstance that God cannot overcome when we humble ourselves, repent, and submit to His will. He does not promise that the road will be an easy one. Mary's road involved making a long journey on a donkey while 9 months pregnant only to deliver the savior of the world in a nasty, smelly stable! After that she had to flee her hometown and hide in a foreign land for fear that her son would be killed by the king, and ultimately, she had to watch her beloved son be persecuted and brutally killed. But she trusted God every step of the way, and right now she is reunited with her precious son in eternity. Because of her trust, obedience, and submission, we have the opportunity to be in eternity with her precious son as well.