Title: One "Yes" Text: Luke 1:26-38 Target: Don't underestimate what God can do through you!

1. Mary's <u>Surprise:</u>

- a. Gabriel: "sent from God" (Vs. 26)
- **b.** Galilee: "city of Galilee named Nazareth" (Vs. 26)
- **c.** Greeting: "and the virgin's name was Mary. And he came to her and said, Greetings, O favored one, the Lord is with you!" (Vs. 27-28)

Discussion Question #1: Surprise – Have you ever been surprised by how God has chosen to work in your life, or the lives of others? What do you think it means for you that God chooses to work through ordinary people and circumstances?

Discussion Question #2: God's Favor – How do you understand the idea of God's favor? How might it challenge your understanding of what it means to be "favored" by God?

2. Mary's Sincerity:

- **a. Humility:** "But she was greatly troubled at the saying" (Vs. 29)
- **b.** Honesty: "and tried to discern what sort of greeting this might be." (Vs. 29)

c. Hesitancy: "and the angel said to her, "Do not be afraid, Mary for you have found favor with God. (Vs. 30)

Discussion Question #3: Humility in Uncertainty – Have you ever felt troubled or confused by something God has asked of you? How did you process that feeling of uncertainty?

Discussion Question #4: Honesty in Faith – Mary seeks to understand. Do you allow yourself to ask questions or express doubts in your relationship with God, or do you feel pressured to have all the answers right away? How does God respond to our honesty and search for understanding?

Discussion Question #5: Fear and Reassurance – When God calls us to big things, fear is often part of the process. How do you deal with fear when God calls you to something greater than yourself?

- **3.** <u>Mary's Surrender</u>: And behold, you will conceive in your womb and bear a son, and you shall call his name Jesus. (Vs. 31)
 - **a. Openness**: "And Mary said to the angel, "How will this be, since I am a virgin?" (Vs. 34)
 - b. Bigness: "The Holy Spirit will come upon you, and the power of the Most High will overshadow you; therefore the child to be born will be called holy-the Son of God" (Vs. 35)
 - **c.** Willingness: "And Mary said, Behold, I am the servant of the Lord; let it be

according to your word" (Vs. 38)

- Discussion Question #6: Openness to God's Call Have you ever received a call from God that seemed too big or too impossible? How did you respond?
- Discussion Question #7: Faith in God's Power When you reflect on the way God worked through Mary, what does it reveal to you about His power and willingness to work in your life?

Discussion Question #8: Surrender – Like Mary, we are all invited to say, "Let it be according to Your word." What areas of your life are you struggling to surrender fully to God's will? Why?

4. Mary's Salvation:

- a. Purpose of His Name: "you shall call his name Jesus." (Vs. 31)
- **b. Power of His Name**: *"He will be great and will be called the Son of the Most High"* (Vs. 32)

c. Permanence of His Name: "And the Lord God will give to him the throne of his father David, and he will reign over the house of Jacob forever." (Vs. 32-33) **d. Purity of His Name:** "And of his Kingdom there will be no end (Vs. 33)

5. Mary's <u>Song</u>: *My* soul magnifies the Lord, and my spirit rejoices in God my Savior, (Vs. 46-47)

Discussion Question #9: The Name of Jesus – What does the name "Jesus" mean to you? How does the meaning of His name shape your understanding of who He is?

Discussion Question #10: Power of His Kingdom – Reflect on the nature of Jesus' eternal kingdom. How does the permanence and purity of His reign impact your daily life and sense of hope?

Discussion Question #11: Personal Salvation – Mary's declaration points to Jesus as the Savior of all. How do you personally experience Jesus as your Savior, and how does that shape your response to His calling?

Take Away: Nothing is impossible!

Reflective Questions:

- 1. What is God calling you to say "Yes" to today?
- 2. How might your response to God's call change if you truly believed that "nothing is impossible" with Him?
- 3. What steps can you take this week to live more fully surrendered to God's purposes in your life?