

# UNLEASHED

## Mary – The LORD'S servant

ser5046, Women Who Made a Difference, Pt4

### I. POINT OF INTRIGUE: (Hook)

I'd like to open with a verse and a question this morning:

#### ***Proverbs 19:21***

**21** Many are the plans in a person's heart, but it is the LORD's purpose that prevails

My question to you is this:

Is the Lord's Purpose prevailing in your life, or are you living out **YOUR OWN PLANS** for your life?

**Is your life self-driven, or it Purposeful?**

- A. Our Sermon series for this month is** *"Women Who Made a Difference!"* There are many women who made a difference, good or bad, all throughout the Bible, but if I had to pick my favorite, it would definitely be Mary.
- B. The title of this sermon is** **"Unleashed"**

Paul said to Timothy:

***2 Timothy 4:6-7***

***6*** For I am already being poured out like a drink offering, and the time for my departure is near. I have fought the good fight, I have finished the race, I have kept the faith...

We can see from this verse, and what we know from the life of Paul, is that he was consistently "pouring out" into others. He knows at this point in the verse, that he

had finished and accomplished God's will and purpose for his life. Not only did he finish, but he finished **STRONG** by keeping the faith.

### **Would you be able to say the same thing?**

At the end of your life, you want to be empty like Paul. He "poured" it **ALL** out. Don't die with ideas and purposes that you never implemented.

When I die, I want to be just like Jesus and say **"It is finished,"** and I am sure that you do too!

### **C. So how do we know what our purpose is, and then how do we walk that out?**

I think we can get some good tips from Mary's experience. Let's take a look!

## II. OUR TEXT (Book)

### A. Our text for today is found in

***Luke 1:26-47***

<sup>26</sup> In the sixth month of Elizabeth's pregnancy, God sent the angel Gabriel to Nazareth, a town in Galilee, <sup>27</sup> to a virgin pledged to be married to a man named Joseph, a descendant of David. The virgin's name was Mary. <sup>28</sup> The angel went to her and said, "**Greetings, you who are highly favored! The Lord is with you.**"

<sup>29</sup> Mary was greatly troubled at his words and wondered what kind of greeting this might be. <sup>30</sup> **But the angel said to her, "Do not be afraid, Mary; you have found favor with God.**

<sup>31</sup> You will conceive and give birth to a son, and you are to call him Jesus. <sup>32</sup> He will be great and will be called the Son of the Most High. The Lord God will give him the throne of his father David, <sup>33</sup> and he

will reign over Jacob's descendants forever; his kingdom will never end."

<sup>34</sup> "How will this be," Mary asked the angel, "since I am a virgin?"

**NOTE!** Mary is saying "How, I'm a virgin?"

Have you been asking God "HOW" instead of being obedient? "How am I going to pay these bills? How am I going to fix this? How am I going to raise these kids?" (Let me know if you figure that out please LOL!)

**HOW?! Because YOU HAVE FAVOR WITH GOD! That's how!**

When you say yes to the call, that's when the flow comes, that's when the anointing comes, that's when the Holy Spirit backs you up with His Power to fulfill your purpose!

**Are we flowing in here today church?**

**(Picking up at *verse 35*)**

**35 The angel answered, "The Holy Spirit will come on you, and the Power of the Most High will overshadow you. So the holy one to be born will be called the Son of God.**

**36 Even Elizabeth your relative is going to have a child in her old age, and she who was said to be unable to conceive is in her sixth month. 37 For with God nothing is ever impossible and no word from God shall be without power or impossible of fulfillment.**

[Amplified Version]

**38 "I am the Lord's servant," Mary answered. "May your word to me be fulfilled." Then the angel left her.**

**NOTE!** If we are going to fulfill God's Purpose for our lives, we need to posture our hearts in such a way that says, "Whatever you say God, I will do it", just like Mary did!

God will not drag you to the **next level**, but HE will invite you to follow HIM to it.

***THROUGH OBEDIENCE!*** Your calling does not need approval, it needs fulfillment, and that requires obedience. God will handle the rest! It's time to level up family! Do you see the spiritual condition this world is in? It's time for Christians to rise and level up!

**(back to our text)**

**39** At that time Mary got ready and hurried to a town in the hill country of Judea, **40** where she entered Zechariah's home and greeted Elizabeth. **41** When Elizabeth heard Mary's greeting, the baby leaped in her womb, and Elizabeth was filled with the Holy Spirit. **42** In a loud voice she exclaimed: "Blessed are you among women, and blessed is the child you will bear! **43** But why am I so favored, that the mother of my Lord should come to me? **44** As soon as the sound of your greeting reached my ears, the baby in my womb leaped for joy. **45** **Blessed is she**

**who has believed that the Lord would fulfill HIS promises to her!"**

***NOTE: SHE BELIEVED!*** If we are ever going to fulfill our calling, we have to first know what we are called to, and second, **WE HAVE TO BELIEVE in our call.**

The only one who has to accept your calling is YOU!! Mary wasn't worried about "***What will everyone think?***" She wasn't thinking about the embarrassment of being pregnant out of wedlock or about what Joseph would do or family would say. She just said, **"May your word be fulfilled."**

All we have to do is give God our "Yes" and HE will take care of the "rest." Recall, God took care of revealing the truth to Joseph.

I'd like to contrast verse <sup>45</sup> **Blessed is she who has believed that the Lord would fulfill HIS promises to her!"**

with **Luke 1:20** where the angel Gabriel is talking to Zachariah about his wife Elizabeth, Mary's cousin, conceiving a baby. The angel of the Lord said,

**"Nothing is impossible for God". BUT** Zachariah didn't believe the angel, and this was the angel's response:

**Luke 1:20** "Now behold, you will be *and* will continue to be silent and not able to speak till the day when these things take place, because **you have not believed** what I told you"

If you are not fulfilling your God-given purpose, most likely one of the reasons is **UNBELIEF!!**

**I'm going to give you this tip for free:**

**"If you don't believe it will happen, you will prove yourself right!"**

**Hebrews 11:6** says, "Without faith it is impossible to please God."

It's not good enough to just believe in God. I also have to believe in what God has put in

me. If we don't believe what God has called us to, or take HIM at HIS word, then we will never attempt to carry out our assignments and fulfill our purpose. If we don't fulfill our purpose, we will never see the promise that is attached to it.

**Hebrews 3:19** "So we see that they were not able to enter [into His rest—the promised land] because of **unbelief and an unwillingness to trust in God.**" [Amplified]

**We are presented with two choices here:**

**1)** We don't believe what God has spoken, be silenced and maybe miss out on seeing the Promise

**OR**

**2)** Believe God at HIS Word, say YES to the call, and give birth to our purpose

If Mary had not believed and said no, we would still have Jesus because God's promises will always be fulfilled. **But**

**Mary, would not have been blessed to have been His mother.**

**What blessings are you missing out on because you keep saying "NO" to God?**

It's a blessing and a privilege to serve God. Trust me, HE doesn't need our help. It's an honor that HE even asked us in the first place. Let's not take that for granted by saying "no." If we do, He'll fill our spot with someone else who is willing, and we will be the ones who miss out, not God!

### **III. (Look)**

**Matthew 1:18** says, "She was found to be pregnant by the Holy Spirit."

So, I have some news for you today, men this includes you, you may not know it yet, **BUT,**

# CONGRATULATIONS YOU'RE PREGNANT!

## Pregnant with purpose empowered of the Holy Spirit

**NOTE**: Men don't twist my words I am not saying you are a woman LOL!

## Pregnant with Purpose by the Power of the Holy Spirit.

**A. I want to talk to you today about birthing purpose.**

**If you don't remember anything else I say today, remember this: Purpose will never skip process.**

**1. Purpose, just like pregnancy starts with a seed that is planted.**

The seed of purpose from God, starts with a call, to do something for Him and His Kingdom.

**IT'S AN ASSIGNMENT FROM GOD!**

## 2. After the seed is planted, just like in pregnancy, next comes the *growing pains*.

Notice the verbiage used for this is never growing pleasant, it's growing pains! It hurts sometimes and it can be very uncomfortable.

God will allow us to be uncomfortable because it keep us reliant on Him and it develops our character, so we are ready and mature enough to handle the promise attached to the call on our lives.

God will rarely reveal the entire plan or process of how we will attain it. **But**, when we step out in faith, He will reveal the process of getting to the promise—one step at a time.

**SO**, keep doing the last thing God told you to do, until He reveals your next step. Then we'll just like a pregnancy.

I WOULD GIVE AN **ILLUSTRATION** HERE. YOU'RE ALREADY AT THE

SATURATION POINT OF OBSORBING  
FACTS. TIME FOR A BREAK! LOL!

### 3. The third part of the process is **POSITION.**

**Luke 1:30** said, "But the angel said to her, "Do not be afraid, Mary; you have found favor with God.

Mary's dedication to God, has put her in **position** for Purpose and Promise.

Using our analogy of pregnancy, babies will settle into the birthing position with their heads down by the 32nd to 36th week of pregnancy.

Sometimes doctors will have to use what's called an **ECV** maneuver. This is for when your unborn baby is in the wrong **position** for birth, set up to come out feet first. This position is called a breech birth, and it can make a vaginal birth more difficult.

**My question to you is....**

**Are you in position?**

**Or are you breeching your calling,  
making it more difficult for God to  
birth it out of you?**

**Today, the LORD is telling you,  
"GET IN POSITION!"**

- 4.** The next step in the process, just to make it really fun, comes pressure.

Pressure will let you know when it's almost time to go into labor. "Nurses will say stop pushing," but I say, "I gotta push its too much pressure. I gotta push this baby is coming!"

AND I'm here to tell you, YOU gotta keep pushing—your breakthrough is right around the corner. You gotta keep pushing that stronghold is about to come down..... **You have to push.**

The pressure makes us **press** and **push** knowing we're about to give birth to purpose. We're about to give

birth to promise. We're about to give birth to Glory. **But you gotta push!**

## 5. Fifth! Now here comes the labor pains.

Paul said in ***Philippians 3:12-14*** "Not that I have already obtained all this, or have already arrived at my goal, but **I press** on to take hold of that for which Christ Jesus took hold of me. <sup>13</sup> Brothers and sisters, I do not consider myself yet to have taken hold of it. But one thing I do: Forgetting what is behind and straining toward what is ahead, <sup>14</sup> **I PRESS ON TOWARD THE GOAL** to win the prize for which God has **called** me upward in Christ Jesus"

Mary pressed through the fear and she pressed through the doubt – don't believe me? ***Luke 1:29*** said, "<sup>29</sup> Mary was **greatly troubled** at his words."

She was greatly troubled, but she **pressed** through the fear and that is why she held on to the promise.

**It's time to press family! Where in your life, is God calling you to push? Where is He telling you to PRESS?!**

You may have beat this point to death. In my opinion—too many.

**God will keep applying pressure, until what He put in you, comes out of you!**

**6. The last step in the process to purpose, just like pregnancy, is in the end, we forget all about the pain because we are holding the beautiful baby in our arms.**

We are holding the promise and we have taken hold of our purpose, just like Mary.

## **B. I want to talk to about the difference between purpose and calling.**

**Purpose** declares why you exist. It captures the heart of why you are on this earth and why Jesus died for you. It defines your life—not in terms of what you think, but what God thinks.

**Calling** is when God throughout your life invites you to carry out various roles in certain seasons to fulfill your purpose.

For example, David was called to defeat Goliath although his purpose was to be king. That's why you hear people say *"God is calling me to start a church. God is calling me to start this business. God is calling me to lead a Bible study."*

**It's not about giving God one yes in one season that fulfills our purpose, it's a compilation of yesses!**

We continually attain our purpose when we keep saying "yes" to God's audibles.

I want you to think and pray about what role you are called to play in this season and then ask yourself, **"Will I give GOD another YES?!"**

**C. Now, it's one thing to possess a calling; it's another to unleash it!**

God puts things in us for the world and God makes us restless until we release it. We can be happy and yet unfulfilled at the same time, because we are not doing the very thing that God created us for. The by-product of fulfilling our purpose is fulfillment!

**D. I want to help you understand, embrace, and unleash your calling, just like Mary did.**

**1. First, we must UNDERSTAND our calling.**

We will never walk it out unless we understand what it is that God is asking us to do. So how do we know what He is asking us to do?

**a. Key #1- Ask Him**

**b. Key #2- Listen to Him**

***Matthew 7:7***

**"<sup>7</sup> "Ask and it will be given to you; seek and you will find; knock and the door will be opened to you. <sup>8</sup> For everyone who asks receives; the one who seeks finds; and to the one who knocks, the door will be opened.**

***Are you asking? Are you seeking?  
Are you knocking?***

That's the key to understanding our calling.

**2. Second, we must EMBRACE our calling –**

Some of the things you are running from, should be the things you should be running to.

**God doesn't need perfection; HE just needs your "YES!"**

Maybe you don't feel worthy of the call..... Here's a news flash....**YOU'RE NOT!** LOL!!! None of us are, **BUT HE is worthy!!**

***Romans 12:1*** says

"Therefore, I urge you, brothers and sisters, **in view of God's mercy**, to offer your bodies as **a living sacrifice**, holy and pleasing to God—**this is your true and proper worship.**"

**"In view of Gods Mercy."** I'd like you think about it like this. In view of Christ's sacrifice, how much more should I be willing to offer my living sacrifice?

We have to know this. **To answer the call and fulfill our purpose, it will take sacrifice.** A sacrifice of your time, talent, and treasure.

However, in view of Christ's sacrifice, what Jesus asks **of us**, is a small price to pay compared to what He did **for us**. **Our "YES" is "true and proper worship"**

Mary said, **"I am the Lord's servant, May your word to me be fulfilled"** (**Luke 1:38**).

It was only fulfilled because she **embraced it** and said **"Yes!"**

That brings us to our next 2 Keys

### **KEY #3 OBEY GOD**

### **KEY #4 SURRENDER TO GOD**

Mary said, **"I am the Lord's servant."** Meaning God, is her Master and she is surrendered to His will for her life, not her own.

## Would you be able to say the same?

### 3. We must UNLEASH our Calling

How do we do that?

#### **KEY #5- WE LIVE FOR HIM!**

It's time to go **ALL IN** with what God has put inside of you!

Sometimes we aren't waiting on God-  
HE'S WAITING ON US!

Don't ask God to guide your footsteps if you aren't willing to move your feet!

It's up to us, to unleash our calling. God presents the opportunity, but we unleash it when we say "**YES,**" like Mary, and follow it up with action.

When we follow up our "**Yes**" with action, it shows God that we have faith and believe the Word He has spoken.

## **You're on assignment! It's time to go all in with God put in you and unleash it to the world!**

We have nothing to prove, just a purpose to fulfill, with an audience of One, our Lord Jesus!

**"I'm called."** What does that mean? That's means goodness and mercy are following me. That means God's opening doors no man can shut. That means if God be for us, what can stand against us?

I'm standing and I'm going to keep standing. That's what leaders do. That's what Christians do! WE STAND! I won't grow weary or faint. David said,

**"He shall be like a tree  
Planted by the rivers of water,  
That bringeth forth fruit in due season,  
Whose leaf also shall not wither;**

And whatever he doeth shall prosper.”

***Psalm 1:3***

## **WHY?**

### **Because I'M CALLED!**

Don't think just because you are not up here on the pulpit or working for the church that you are not called.

Maybe, your calling is that you are the only Christian in the office, so you are to be the light in the darkness. The one people come to for prayer or if they have a problem. Then you just give it 100% there because no one else can do you like you. That's why God has planted you there.

Maybe, your calling is to be a mother. Then you be the best mother you can be and train up those children.

(And while you're at it can you come help me with mine. LOL!)

Whatever God has called you to do, you give it 100% and you will fulfill your purpose.

**ILLUSTRATION:**

The only reason I stand before you today, is because I continually say **yes** to the call. Many of you don't know this, but I recently almost lost my life due to a ruptured appendix.

The doctor literally said if I had not gone to the hospital when I did, even just a few hours later, I would have been dead.

After I was out of the hospital and finally feeling better, I saw Pastor John Gaines. He looked right at me and said, "*Do you know why you are still here?*"

I said, "No." And **he replied, "Purpose!"** Immediately, the Holy Spirit confirmed that Word in my spirit.

**PURPOSE is why I am alive!**  
**Purpose is what kept me here!**

Because even though I faced death, the One who lives in me conquered death and He's not done with me yet.

**If you are still here, He's not done with you either!**

**Nothing to prove just the purpose to fulfill.**

Mary was pregnant with purpose. **Pursue your purpose.** Purpose must be pursued in order for it to be fulfilled.

**Don't abort your purpose. Give birth to it, by unleashing it!**

## **IV. HELPS AND HINDERANCES TO UNLEASHING YOUR CALLING**

### **A. Purpose Partners**

- 1.** Faith / belief
- 2.** Consistency
- 3.** Sustainable Pace
- 4.** Staying power

5. *Intentional Focus* (the Word God gave me for this year). Focus means *selective attention*. This is what we need to fulfill our purpose

## **B. Purpose Predators (Killers)**

1. Unbelief
2. Resentments
3. Procrastination
4. Distractions- treat distractions like demons or distractions can become your demons.
5. People-pleasing
6. Comparison

People are unfulfilled because they are not fulfilling their purpose and are living for themselves instead of living for God! Let's purpose in our hearts, to unleash our calling by following **Key #5 LIVE FOR HIM!**

***Ephesians 4:1*** Paul said, "I urge you to live a life worthy of the **calling** you have received."

I'm here today to urge you to do the same!

**Don't quench the Spirit, by ignoring call.  
Now is the time to unleash it!**

## V. (TOOK)

### *Picking up at Verse 46*

<sup>46</sup> And Mary said:

**"My soul glorifies the Lord**

<sup>47</sup> and my spirit rejoices in God my Savior,

<sup>48</sup> for he has been mindful

of the **humble state of his servant.**

From now on all generations will call me blessed,

<sup>49</sup> for the Mighty One has done great things for me—

Holy is HIS Name.

It's time to start the heavy breathing and push. God pushed me onto this pulpit today to tell you, to **PUSH!**

He's put His glory down on the inside of you and He's saying it's time to push and birth out Glory.

Be like Isaiah and say, **"Here I am send me."**

"I'm willing to push, God, because just like Mary said, **"My soul glorifies the Lord!"**

We say it every week,

***"I was born with value and purpose."***

**Our united Divine Purpose is to Glorify  
God!**

We need to have attitudes and live lives that show, **"I'm a Glory Carrier!"**

If you're ready to UNLEASH GLORY in this place, **get on your feet and give God some praise!!**

## **VI. INVITATION**

The first thing that God ever calls us, to is Salvation.

Walking in victory.... walking in freedom and **walking with purpose**, begins with a decision to trust Jesus with our lives.

**Have you answered the call to receive the Gift of our Lord Jesus Christ yet?**

**The way to salvation and HOW to make Jesus our Lord and savior is as easy as ABC:**

**Admitt**– your sins have separated you from God. (Psa 14:1-3; Rom 3:23);

**Believe** – that God did something about your sins through Jesus Christ. (The final Pascal Lamb/Messiah.) (Lev 17:10; Heb 9:19-22);

**Commit** – yourself to His righteousness by confessing Jesus as Lord and Savior. (Isa 53:5; Col 1:22);

**Do it today!** (Isa 49:8; 2 Cor 6:2).

Father in Heaven, I'm sorry for the things I've done that are wrong: I am a sinner; forgive me. Thank You for loving me and sending your Son, Jesus, to pay the penalty for my sin. Holy Spirit come into my heart; Jesus be my Lord and Savior. I give You my life. Amen.

**Those of you** who prayed with me today and **received** Jesus Christ as your Lord and Savior, please fill out the white envelope in front of you, and check the box that says FTD, and place in in the offering baskets as you leave the Church. We'll be in touch this week via letter giving you a few pointers on how to grow in your fellowship with Christ.

**Those of you** watching online, and prayed with me, please **TEXT**:

**Text: *Pray* to **856.861.4144****  
**Email: [Bruce@GCCCPRAY.COM](mailto:Bruce@GCCCPRAY.COM)**

**BE BLESSED!**

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