



**A Very Vintage Christmas**  
**Lessons from Mary**  
**Luke 1:26–38**

Christmas is upon us! On Sunday we entered into the season of Advent. Advent, which comes from the Latin word for “arrival” or “coming,” is an important season in the life of the church. And many get confused about it, thinking that it is primarily about Jesus’ incarnation and birth. Rather, Advent is primarily about his second coming—his return. Just as people longed for and anticipated the Messiah’s first coming, today we are to anticipate and expect his return.

Throughout this Advent season Vintage Church is looking at key figures in the Christmas story. We’re looking at not only how they responded to the first coming of Jesus, but also what they can teach us about Jesus’ return. We begun A Very Vintage Christmas with Mary, the mother of Jesus.

- As you reflect on the message, what stood out to you? What is something you are still thinking about?
- What is something from the message that challenged you? How are you wrestling with that challenge?
- What question(s) do you have from the message?
- What is at least one practical takeaway from the message?

## **Luke 1:26–38**

**26** In the sixth month the angel Gabriel was sent from God to a city of Galilee named Nazareth, **27** to a virgin betrothed 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!" **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, for you have found favor with God. **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."

**34** And Mary said to the angel, "How will this be, since I am a virgin?"

**35** And the angel answered her, "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. **36** And behold, your relative Elizabeth in her old age has also conceived a son, and this is the sixth month with her who was called barren. **37** For nothing will be impossible with God." **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.

- One of the things Pastor Dustin mentioned many times was "God's plan." In this passage, what is God's plan? Why should all other "plans" be centered around this plan in Luke 1?
- Why was Mary confused by God's plan for her to be the mother of Jesus?
- How can God's plan be confusing in our lives?
- How should we respond to God's plan, even when it's confusing?
- What does it mean to be a "favored one" and to find "favor with God?" What does this tell us about God?
- God chose to use Mary in his plan. How does it make you feel knowing that God uses us in his plan?
- How are you a part of God's plan for Jesus' return?
- While God used Mary, his plan was not about her. It was about Jesus. How do we tend to make God's plan about us? How can we reorient ourselves to be about God's plan?

- Mary was tasked with a difficult assignment from God. Yet she trusted and submitted to him. How will you trust and submit to God's plan?
- As we close, each of you share your hope for this Advent season. Close by bringing those hopes to the Lord in prayer, asking him to answer each one of them.