

## Moment of Magnitude - Mary

By Major Ann Montgomery

(Luke 1:26-38 NIV)



This is huge! How? Why?

Have you ever felt like that? I wonder what Mary thought when the angel Gabriel appeared to her. a young virgin girl. was it fear and disbelief mixed with some confusion and concern at the message she received? Of course. reassurance was given by the angel in the words 'Do not be afraid. Mary. you have found favour with God. You will be with child and give birth to a son. and you are to give him the name Jesus' (Luke 1:30-31) but would those words really have calmed her fears. taken away her confusion?

This was a life-changing moment for Mary. not only in the sense that she was to become a mother - and that's life changing enough - but Mary was to be the mother of the Son of God (Luke 1:35). God himself wanted to place his hope for the world in her!

We see in Luke's gospel 1:38 a true sense of surrender and acceptance by Mary in her response. 'I am the Lord's servant. may it be to me as you have said.' but when was the moment that fear and confusion changed to faithful submission and contentment?

Mary knew that her cousin Elizabeth was longing for a child. however age was against her and to the human mind it was impossible. so the wonderful news brought to Mary by Gabriel of Elizabeth's pregnancy affirmed once again the sovereignty and power of our Almighty God and the truth that nothing. absolutely nothing. is impossible with God.

Do you believe that?

Have you. like Mary. had a moment of magnitude? Has God. or is God asking something of you - placing his hope in you so to speak? Is it a big ask. does it perhaps even feel impossible?

Will you respond by saying 'I am the Lord's servant. may it be to me as you have said.'

As you reflect on that moment. thank God for the example of faithful submission by Mary and thank Him for His faithfulness to you as you continue to trust in Him.

*Mercy and grace are mine. forgiven is my sin.  
Jesus my only hope. the Saviour of the world.  
'Great is the Lord.' we cry: God. let your kingdom come.  
Your word has let me see. thank you for saving me.  
Great is the Lord.  
For we know your truth has set us free.  
You've set your hope in me.  
(Martin Smith)*