

Title: *God picked you!*

Text: Luke 1:26-30; Matthew 1:18–25

Target Statement: God chooses ordinary people to carry out His extraordinary plan.

1. **God Breaks the Silence in a Unique Way:** *“In the sixth month the angel Gabriel was sent from God...”* (Luke 1:26a)
 - a. **Silent Years:** 400 Years of Silence between the end of the Old Testament and the beginning of the New Testament.
 - b. **Gabriel is Sent:** Not a prophet, but an angel

Discussion Question: Where does your life feel “silent” right now—like God is not speaking—and how might He actually be preparing something in the quiet?

Cross-refs: Psalm 27:14; Isaiah 40:31; Habakkuk 2:3

Discussion Question: How do you usually respond when God moves in a way you didn’t expect (like sending an angel instead of a prophet)?

Cross-refs: Isaiah 55:8–9; Exodus 3:2–4; Acts 9:3–6

Discussion Question: What is one area where you need to trust that God is still working even when He seems silent?

Cross-refs: Psalm 46:10; Lamentations 3:25–26; Romans 8:28

2. **God Shows Up in Unlikely Places:** *“to a city of Galilee named Nazareth,”* (Luke 1:26b)
 - a. **Galilee:** The Region of the Gentiles
 - i. **For the Unclean**
 - ii. **For the Nations**
 - b. **Nazareth:** *“Can anything good come out of Nazareth?”* (John 1:46)
 - i. **For the Unwanted**
 - ii. **For the Forgotten**

Discussion Question: What “Nazareth places” exist in your life—areas you consider small, insignificant, or unworthy—and how might God want to work through them?

Cross-refs: John 1:46; Micah 5:2; 1 Corinthians 1:27–29

Discussion Question: Have you ever dismissed someone (including yourself) because you didn’t believe anything “good” could come from their background?

Cross-refs: James 2:1–5; Acts 4:13; Genesis 28:16

Discussion Question: How does God showing up in forgotten places encourage you to look for Him in your everyday ordinary environments?

Cross-refs: Psalm 34:18; Matthew 28:20; Genesis 16:13

3. God Chooses an Unknown Couple: *“To a virgin betrothed to a man whose name was Joseph, of the house of David; And the virgin’s name was Mary.”* (Luke 1:27)

a. Time of Engagement: *“Betrothed”*

b. Lineage of Joseph: *“House of David”*

i. Righteous: *“Joseph, being a just man...”* (Matthew 1:19)

ii. Responsive: *“he did as the angel of the Lord commanded him”* (Matthew 1:24) **iii. Redemptive:** *“unwilling to put her to shame...”* (Matthew 1:19)

c. Reputation of Mary: *“Virgin”*

i. Devout to Scripture: Luke 1:46-55

ii. Humble: She was surprised in the story of Luke 1.

iii. Set Apart: Her physical purity matched her pursuit of Godly purity. *Not sinless, but separated.

Discussion Question: What does Joseph and Mary’s obedience teach you about responding to God even when you don’t fully understand His plan?

Cross-refs: Matthew 1:24–25; Luke 1:38; Hebrews 11:8

Discussion Question: In what ways is God calling you to integrity and purity—like Joseph’s righteousness or Mary’s devotion—that will prepare you for what He wants to do through you?

Cross-refs: Psalm 24:3–4; 1 Peter 1:15–16; Proverbs 11:3

Discussion Question: How does knowing God chooses *ordinary* people change the way you view your purpose, calling, or qualifications?

Cross-refs: 1 Samuel 16:7; Ephesians 2:10; 2 Corinthians 3:5–6

4. God Bestows an Undeserved Greeting: *“And he came to her and said, ‘Greetings, O favored one, the Lord is with you!’”* (Luke 1:28)

a. Grace in the Greeting: *“favored”* & *“The Lord is with you.”*

i. **Mary was Disturbed:** *"But she was greatly troubled at the saying,"* (Luke 1:29a) ii. **Mary was Discerning:** *"and tried to discern what sort of greeting this might be."* (Luke 1:29b)

b. **Faith over Fear:** *"And the angel said to her, 'Do not be afraid, Mary, for you have found favor with God.'" (Vs. 30)*

i. **Commanded:** *"Do not be afraid"*

ii. **Commissioned:** *"Mary, for you..."*

iii. **Covered:** *"found favor with God" *Psalm 5:12*

Discussion Question: How do you respond when God calls you "favored" even though you feel unworthy, troubled, or insecure like Mary?

Cross-refs: Psalm 5:12; Romans 8:15; Ephesians 1:6

Discussion Question: What fears are currently holding you back from fully stepping into what God has asked you to do?

Cross-refs: Isaiah 41:10; Joshua 1:9; 2 Timothy 1:7

Discussion Question: Where do you sense God inviting you to choose faith over fear this week, trusting that "the Lord is with you"?

Cross-refs: Matthew 28:20; Hebrews 13:5–6; Deuteronomy 31:6

Takeaway: God specializes in showing up in overlooked places and using overlooked people! Ask Joseph and Mary.

WEEKLY CHALLENGE: "LIVE LIKE GOD PICKED YOU"

Break the Silence — Listen for God Daily

Choose **one 10-minute block each day** to sit in silence with God.

No worship music. No phone. No agenda.

Just pray:

"Speak Lord, Your servant is listening." — *1 Samuel 3:10*

Write down anything God stirs, reveals, or reminds you of.