

Rediscovering Christmas

The Gift That Changed The World



A Gift... For The Lonely

Matthew 1:18-23; Luke 1:26-38

Sermon Notes | Jeff Randleman | December 10, 2023

"Behold, the virgin shall conceive and bear a son, and they shall call his name Immanuel" (which means, God with us).

– Matthew 1:23 (ESV)

When You Feel Alone, Remember:

Alone doesn't last _____.

Alone isn't always _____.

Alone usually precedes God's _____.

Alone is often when God comes most _____ to us.

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Matters for Reflection and Discussion:

1. Read through Matthew 1:18-23 and Luke 1:26-38. Note anything that stands out to you.
2. Consider Joseph's initial response in Matthew 1:19 to Mary's unexpected pregnancy. How can his journey from confusion to obedience provide comfort to those facing unexpected challenges and feeling isolated?
3. Explore the concept of Immanuel, "God with us," in Matthew 1:23. How does this truth bring solace and companionship to those grappling with feeling alone during the Christmas season?
4. Reflect on Mary's reaction in Luke 1:29 when the angel appeared. How might her experience resonate with those who feel alone or uncertain?
5. In Luke 1:32-33, the angel describes Jesus as the Son of the Most High, whose kingdom will have no end. How does this offer hope to those who might feel their circumstances are endless or insurmountable?
6. In Luke 1:38, Mary responds to the angel with submission and trust. How can her attitude serve as an example for those facing loneliness or uncertainty, encouraging them to surrender to God's plans?
7. Contemplate the role of the angel Gabriel in both passages. How does his message bring hope to those who feel alone?
8. How have you felt alone, either in the past or currently? Review the four applications. Which one helps you most when you feel alone?
9. Spend some time in prayer, reflecting on the comforting and inclusive nature of God's gift of Jesus.
10. For further study, read and discuss the following Scriptures: Isaiah 7:14.