

# *The First Noel*

## “Wishing You a Very Mary Christmas”

### How Can I Be Like Mary This Christmas?

1. By resting in the reality that ***God is at work*** all around me, although I don't realize it, even at times using supernatural messengers in my life circumstances.
  - **Luke 1:26-27a:** *“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.”*
2. By being an inspiration to others: that God uses & honors simple, ***unknown people*** like me who are faithful to Him.
  - **Luke 1:27b-28:** *“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.’”*
3. By unreservedly trusting God in troubling, confusing, & anxious times when I ***do not understand*** what He is doing or why.
  - **Luke 1:29-30:** *“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.’”*
4. By facing life’s daily demands, trials, & challenges with an attitude that ***impossibilities*** are God’s specialties.
  - **Luke 1:31-37:** *“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?’” <sup>35</sup> 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<sup>l</sup> the Son of God. <sup>36</sup> 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. <sup>37</sup> For no word from God will ever fail.’”*
5. By always remembering that to experience God’s purpose, presence, & power in my life, my response to Him must be an unqualified ***yes, Lord.***
  - **Luke 1:38:** *“‘I am the Lord’s servant,’ Mary answered. ‘May your word to me be fulfilled.’ Then the angel left her.”*