

SERIES: GRATITUDE & BLESSINGS

DATE: Saturday - Sunday, December 3-4, 2022

SERMON: The Wonderful Words of Christmas: *Power*

SCRIPTURE: Luke 1:26-38

[26] In the sixth month of Elizabeth's pregnancy, God sent the angel Gabriel to Nazareth, a town in Galilee,

[27] to a virgin pledged to be married to a man named Joseph, a descendant of David. The virgin's name was Mary.

[28] The angel went to her and said, "Greetings, you who are highly favored! The Lord is with you."

[29] Mary was greatly troubled at his words and wondered what kind of greeting this might be.

[30] But the angel said to her, "Do not be afraid, Mary; you have found favor with God.

[31] You will conceive and give birth to a son, and you are to call him Jesus.

[32] 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,

[33] and he will reign over Jacob's descendants forever; his kingdom will never end."

[34] "How will this be," Mary asked the angel, "since I am a virgin?"

[35] 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 the Son of God.

[36] 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.

[37] For no word from God will ever fail."

[38] "I am the Lord's servant," Mary answered. "May your word to me be fulfilled." Then the angel left her.

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1. God _____.

- When you have _____ with God, you do not have to be _____.

2. God works in _____ far beyond _____.

Isaiah 55:8 "For my thoughts are not your thoughts, neither are your ways my ways," declares the LORD.

Acts 26:8 Why should any of you consider it incredible that God raises the dead?

3. God _____ Himself to us.

- God uses faithful people to _____ our faith.

4. God works but we must _____ and _____.

Ephesians 3:20-21 Now to him who is able to do immeasurably more than all we ask or imagine, according to his power that is at work within us, to him be glory in the church and in Christ Jesus throughout all generations, for ever and ever! Amen.

- "_____ is impossible with God."
Mark 9:23 "If you can?" said Jesus. "Everything is possible for one who believes."
- "God is the God of the _____."
Mark 10:27 Jesus looked at them and said, "With man this is impossible, but not with God; all things are possible with God."

Lagniappe

I hope that you have had a wonderful Thanksgiving and that you will have a blessed Christmas season as well.

We have a full and significant month of December planned as we worship and praise our great God.

During this month, I will be preaching about the *blessings of Christmas*. The sermons will be about **“The Wonderful Words of Christmas.”**

What are those words? *Power, Light, Love/Salvation, Joy, and Hope*. All of these words are found in the narratives about the coming of Christ into the world. I pray that this different way of looking at the birth of Christ will spur you on to a greater commitment to the Lord. God has done the ultimate for us; we must yield our whole selves unto Him as well.

Also, remember that our Christmas musical occurs next weekend, December 9 and 10. We have three times that you can attend: **Friday December 9 @ 7:00PM**; and **Saturday December 10 @ 2:00PM & 6:00PM**. This will be a great way to begin your Christmas celebration with a special time of worship led by our children, youth, adult choirs, and orchestra.

Finally, please join with us Saturday December 24th for our special **Christmas Eve Services @ 1:00, 3:00, and 5:00 PM**. We hope you will invite your friends to be with us as we have plenty of space for all of us to invite others. *Childcare is available by reservation only. Email Darlene at ddrivon@fbccov.org*

This is the way Christmas Day and New Year's Day services will be held:

Sunday - Christmas Day, we will have a very special family time as our pastors lead us in worshipping God. **This will be one service at 10:00 AM.**

Sunday - New Year's Day, will be two services at the **normal times of 9:30 and 11:00 AM.**

We will not have Connect Groups for Christmas Day or New Year's Day.

Also, no Saturday night service on New Year's Eve.

Please make this Christmas season a wonderful time of praise and devotion.

