

MYSTERY AT THE MANGER

How Can This Be?

Luke 1:26-38

1. THE ANNOUNCEMENT: Luke 1:26-28

In the sixth month the angel, Gabriel, was sent by God to a town in Galilee called Nazareth to a virgin engaged to a man whose name was Joseph of the House of David. "Greetings, Mary, you are highly favored. The Lord is with you."

2. THE ANXIETY: Luke 1:32; 34-37

"How can this be," Mary asked, "since I am a virgin" Then the angel said to her, "The Holy Spirit will come upon you, and the power of the Most High will over shadow you; therefore the child to be born will be holy; he will be called Son of God. And now your relative Elizabeth, in her old age, has also conceived a son; and is in the sixth month for her who was said to be barren. For nothing will be impossible with God."

What will it take for you to believe?

- _____ Faith: We believe because others believe.
- _____ Faith: Mary needed to ask the question – *How can this be?* So do we.
- _____ Faith: We are neither afraid of our questions nor are we hampered by them either.

3. THE ANSWER: Luke 1:38

Then Mary said, "Let it be to me according to your word."

Mary's answer was straight forward. *I am the Lord's servant.*

What is the difference between a volunteer and a servant?