

Believe The Impossible

Foundations

Luke 1:35-37

EXPLORING THE SERMON

- * What did you hear?
- * What did you think or feel about what you heard?
- * What is one thing you can take away from the sermon this week?

KEY VERSES

The angel said to her, 'The Holy Spirit will come upon you, and the power of the Most High will overshadow 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 this is the sixth month for her who was said to be barren. For nothing will be impossible with God.'

REFLECTION AND DISCUSSION

Our study of the Apostles' Creed has challenged us to consider how much these words actually apply to us today. It might be tempting to be suspicious of things passed down to us. This week, we focus on this line of the Apostles' Creed: "who was conceived by the Holy Spirit and born of the virgin Mary." ***What impact does this week's scripture passage have on your view of this part of the creed?***

The virgin conception and birth are among the "impossible things" that we as Christians believe. Yet the whole point of faith is believing the impossible. ***How can it be dangerous for us to base our beliefs solely on what we think is possible?***

If we are willing to believe the impossible, there are two things we will gain:

1) **Humility**: as in taking in a sunset, feeling deeply loved.

How can this type of humility open us up to the mystery of God and free us from thinking we have control?

2) **Hope**: specifically, hope for change. We have all experienced how change can feel impossible.

How can miracles such as the virgin birth remind us of God's intent to renew creation, and give us hope that He can change us?

Dear Heavenly Father, may we be encouraged this week to believe that the situations we find impossible are exactly where we can find You. Help us to resist the temptation to believe only the parts of our faith that are easy. May our minds not be limited by the scope of our humanity, but transformed by the belief of your wonders. Amen