



Your NAWE Companion

'N AWE

December—January 2019

Attitude Determines Obedience

Larry Shreiner, Blairsville, GA

What attitude is God looking for from us? We find the answer in Luke 1:38. Here Mary demonstrates a very positive reaction when Gabriel reveals God's plan for her life. Mary exhibited many of the same human emotions you and I would when facing a stressful situation. But she remained **willing** to serve God. **Are you willing to follow the Lord no matter what He calls you to do?** When you hear God call you to a task, do you say with a smile on your lips and in your heart, "Yes, Lord, yes"? It's not easy to have a positive attitude when your mind is full of doubts and fears. God is looking for us to respond just like Mary, *"I am a servant of the Lord; may it be done to me according to your word"*? (Luke 1:38NKJV)

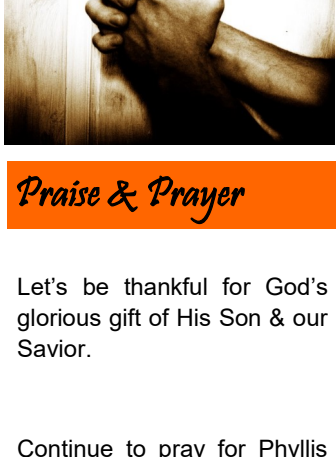
Too often we forget that the people God used in the Old and New Testaments were just like us. They frequently struggled with the same physical and emotional limitations we find within ourselves. When closely examining Luke 1:26-38, we find a young woman who is confused, afraid, and full of doubts. Can you identify with Mary?

In verse 29, right after Gabriel declares that the Lord is with Mary and that she is highly favored by Him, Luke records how she was troubled and confused by the angel's greeting. In verse 34, Mary demonstrates doubt in her ability to have a child since she knew she was a virgin. Would you have reacted any differently if you stood in Mary's place?

The most important statement in this text is found in verse 37, *"With God nothing is impossible"*. Too often we forget this fact. Mary's confusion, fear and doubts all disappear once she heard these words. She immediately declared herself to be the Lord's servant willing to have God use her just as He said He would. Wow! **Do you exhibit your complete faith and belief in God when He calls you into His service?**

You might wonder, "When has God asked me to serve Him?" God's answer is, "More often than you realize". It happens every time the Holy Spirit draws your attention to a person's need that God has given you the ability to meet. It happens when God gives you a vision to fulfill. Just like Mary, all we may know is that God is asking us to serve Him. All our doubts and fears caused by the "what ifs" should be dashed on the solid rock of knowing that *"With God nothing is impossible!"* (Luke 1:37)

God always provides everything required to accomplish His calling. Often your attitude keeps you from saying yes to God's call. How often have you said, "Why me?" "Not now, I am busy," or "I do not like that kind of work." Instead, your response should be, "I am here, Lord, use me." **What is the difference between these responses? Your attitude towards God!**



Praise & Prayer

Let's be thankful for God's glorious gift of His Son & our Savior.

Continue to pray for Phyllis Snipes upon the recent death of her mother.

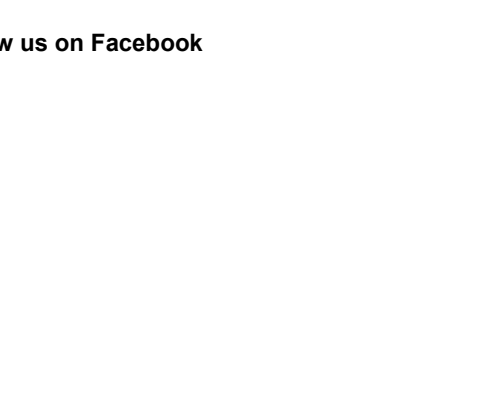
Pray for others dealing with the loss of loved ones during the holiday season.

Pray for the mother of Janet Smith, as well as for Dick & Janet. Janet's ailing mother has moved in with them & they have taken on the role of caregivers.

Pray for our churches as they have special Christmas events & ministries.

Associations News 2019 Events & Speakers

Our **Ministers' & Wives Retreat** is scheduled for **April 23-25**. It will be held at **Desoto State Park** near Fort Payne, Alabama. Our speaker will be **Hal Daigre**, president of the Association of Independent Methodists and pastor of First Independent Methodist Church in Decatur, AL. You will be receiving more information about the retreat after the first of the year.



Our **2019 Annual Meeting** is scheduled for **July 16-18**. **Danielsville Evangelical Church** in Danielsville, Georgia will be hosting this event. Our speaker will be **Dr. Bill Ury**. Bill & his wife, Diane, serve as National Ambassadors for Holiness for the Salvation Army. Dr. Ury is also an adjunct professor at Wesley Biblical Seminary.

AIM Men's Retreat: The Association of Independent Methodists have invited any of our men who are interested to join them for their retreat—January 18-19 at the Ramada Inn & Conference Center in Cordele, Georgia. The speaker will be John Muehleisen, WGM missionary in Uganda. It begins on Friday at 1pm and goes through Saturday at 11:30am. The cost for a single room is \$100. This includes Friday evening dinner and Saturday morning breakfast. If you are interested in participating, contact Tony Elder who is planning to attend. He will give our friends at AIM an idea about how many to expect from our group. Perhaps some of us would like to share transportation there as well.



Calendar

Visit us at
www.theNAWE.com

January 18-19: AIM Men's Retreat in Cordele, GA

April 23-25: Ministers' & Wives' Retreat at Desoto State Park near Fort Payne, AL

July 16-18: Annual Meeting at Danielsville, GA

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