

The Christmas Story **Luke 1:26-38 (AM 12/10/17)**

The Christmas Story is simple, and yet, stunning – *“There is born for you this day in the city of David a Savior, who is Christ the Lord,” Luke 2:11.* Sinners are desperately in need of a Savior. However, like every good story, there is a *subplot*. The intriguing story of who God would use to bring His Son into the world. Mary was the most *unlikely* candidate. She was stunned to be chosen and amazed to be used. God is still in the miracle business. Daily, He surveys the landscape of His creation looking for unlikely but willing conduits. He longs to use *ordinary* people to do *extraordinary* things. Would you be willing to be a contemporary Christmas story?

I. The Workers God Uses (26-30)

God still uses those who live for Him

- God uses the common (26-27) *“A virgin betrothed to a man...”*
- God uses His children (28) *“The Lord is with you...”*
- God uses the called (29-30) *“You have found favor with God...”*

II. The Work God Does (31-35)

God still uses those who listen to Him

- His *Immaculate* conception (31; 34-35a) *“You will conceive...”*
- His *Incarnate* completion (35b) *“The power of the Highest...”*
- His *Imperishable* coronation (32-33) *“He will reign...”*

III. The Wonder of His Work (36-38)

God still uses those who look to Him

- God *leaves* His confirmation (37) *“With God nothing is impossible...”*
- God *looks* for our confession (38a) *“Behold the (your) maidservant”*
- God *longs* for our commitment (38b) *“Let it be...”*

Application to life: The Christmas Story never loses the mystery of its majesty. That the Father would invade Human History through the Incarnation of His Son, as the Christ Child, to Redeem ruined man, is unfathomable. That He would use a peasant teenager from an obscure village is unimaginable. *But He did.* The Father is not through weaving the tapestry of His Redemption story today. He is still doing amazing things through the lives of those who are available to Him, like Mary. Do more, this year, than celebrating the Christmas Story, be a Christmas Story.