



**RIVERSIDE**  
CHURCH



**Current Series**

**Message Notes**

**Christmas**  
*at* **Riverside**

Dec 15, 2024

*You Want Me to Do What?!*

**Pastor Nate Sickler - Buffalo Campus**

**Pastor Aaron Andrews - Sauk Rapids Campus**

**MYRC.CHURCH**



MESSAGE NOTES

*You Want Me to Do What?!*

Dec 15, 2024

Pastor Nate Sickler - Buffalo Campus  
Pastor Aaron Andrews - Sauk Rapids Campus

What are your \_\_\_\_\_ this Christmas?

- How do you \_\_\_\_\_ when life doesn't go according to plan?

Today, we're going to look at how one person responded to one of the most \_\_\_\_\_ moments in human history.

**(Matthew 1:18-25)**

**1.** In the unexpected, Mary was \_\_\_\_\_. **(Luke 1:26-34)**

**2.** In the unexpected, Mary \_\_\_\_\_. **(Luke 1:35-37)**

**3.** In the unexpected, Mary was \_\_\_\_\_ and willing to \_\_\_\_\_. **(Luke 1:38)**

As Mary navigated the unexpected, she not only accepted God's plan but \_\_\_\_\_ it.

## *This Christmas at Riverside:*

- Is there a \_\_\_\_\_ in your life right now?
- Are you being open and honest with God about your \_\_\_\_\_?
- Are you \_\_\_\_\_ to listen?
- How can you move from accepting God's plan to \_\_\_\_\_ His plan?

***Tell us about the next step you took today in your spiritual journey!***

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**SMALL GROUP**  
guide on the back

# SG

Your group matters.

## DISCUSSION GUIDE

- Icebreaker -

*What is the strangest thing you have ever used/seen for wrapping paper?*

1. Take time to answer this question from the message, “How do you respond when life doesn’t go according to plan?”
2. Read **Matthew 1:18-25**. Mary was *authentic* in receiving this unexpected news (see **Luke 1:26-34**). How authentic are you when surprised by unexpected news and why is it important to be authentic in your response?
3. Mary *listened* when confronted with the unexpected (**Luke 1:35-37**). When encountering the unexpected, what is your tendency when it comes to listening...do you try to start solving the issue, start panicking, ask God to help you hear what He’s saying, or something else entirely?
4. When the unexpected approached her, Mary was *available* and *willing to trust*. (See **Luke 1:38**) Describe a time you felt God wanted you to be both available and willing to trust Him in the unexpected. What was the outcome?
5. At the end of the message, you were asked, “How can you move from accepting God’s plan to embracing His plan?” What steps will you take to move from acceptance to embracing God’s plan as you encounter the unexpected?

## PERSONAL GUIDE

*Day One:* Matthew 11; Psalm 100

*Day Two:* Leviticus 10; Proverbs 7

*Day Three:* 1 Corinthians 6; 2 Samuel 20

*Day Four:* 2 Peter 3; Jeremiah 34

*Day Five:* Job 38; Acts 16

*This Personal Guide has been adapted from Professor Grant Horner’s Bible Reading System.*



## MESSAGE NOTES

# *You Want Me to Do What?!*

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Dec 15, 2024

Pastor Nate Sickler - Buffalo Campus  
Pastor Aaron Andrews - Sauk Rapids Campus

What are your expectations this Christmas?

- How do you respond when life doesn't go according to plan?

Today, we're going to look at how one person responded to one of the most unexpected moments in human history. (**Matthew 1:18-25**)

- 1.** In the unexpected, Mary was authentic. (**Luke 1:26-34**)
- 2.** In the unexpected, Mary listened. (**Luke 1:35-37**)
- 3.** In the unexpected, Mary was available and willing to trust. (**Luke 1:38**)

As Mary navigated the unexpected, she not only accepted God's plan but embraced it.

## *This Christmas at Riverside:*

- Is there a surprise in your life right now?
- Are you being open and honest with God about your experience?
- Are you willing to listen?
- How can you move from accepting God's plan to embracing His plan?

***Tell us about the next step you took today in your spiritual journey!***

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