



5 Lessons Everyone Can Learn from Jesus' Mom
(Luke 1, 2)
Sunday, May 10, 2026

5-Day Devotional: Lessons from Mary's Faith

Day 1: Saying Yes Without Knowing the Cost

Reading: Luke 1:26-38

Devotional: Mary's response to the angel reveals a profound truth about faith: sometimes God calls us to say yes before revealing the full cost of our obedience. When Gabriel announced her unexpected role in God's redemptive plan, Mary didn't negotiate terms or demand a detailed contract. She simply said, "I am the Lord's servant. May everything you have said about me come true."

How often do we calculate the cost before responding to God's call? We assess social consequences, financial implications, and comfort levels before committing. Yet Mary teaches us that true faith trusts the One giving the assignment more than it fears the unknown outcome.

Today, consider where God might be calling you to step forward in faith. What "yes" have you been withholding because you're afraid of what it might cost you? Remember, God's favor doesn't guarantee ease—it guarantees His presence through whatever comes.

Reflection Question: What assignment from God are you weighing by its cost rather than by His faithfulness?

Day 2: Life as a Calling

Reading: Luke 2:33-35; Romans 12:1-2

Devotional: Mary didn't compartmentalize her life into sacred and secular categories. She understood that being chosen by God meant her entire existence—every moment, decision, and sacrifice—belonged to Him. When Simeon prophesied that a sword would pierce her own soul, Mary accepted that privilege and pain would walk hand in hand.

We often categorize our lives, offering God some parts while reserving others for ourselves. We give Him Sunday mornings but keep our career ambitions separate. We surrender our finances but hold back our relationships. Mary shows us a different way: wholehearted surrender.

Joy and grief can exist simultaneously in the life of faith. A difficult season doesn't mean God has abandoned you or that you've strayed from His path. Sometimes the hardest roads are exactly where God intends us to walk. When we embrace our entire life as a calling, we discover God's presence in both celebration and suffering.

Reflection Question: Which areas of your life have you kept compartmentalized from God's lordship?

Day 3: Questioning Without Doubting

Reading: Luke 2:41-52; Jeremiah 33:3

Devotional: Scripture tells us that Mary "kept all these things in her heart and thought about them often." She had questions. She wondered. She didn't understand everything about Jesus's mission or methods. Yet her questions never stopped her from moving forward in faith.

Many believers feel guilty for having questions, as if wondering somehow equals weakness. But God actually invites our questions: "Ask me and I will tell you remarkable secrets you do not know about things to come." Questioning and doubting are not the same thing. Discouragement over unanswered questions differs vastly from doubting God's character or faithfulness.

Mary pondered mysteries she couldn't fully comprehend—from Jesus staying behind at the temple to His apparent dismissiveness at the wedding in Cana. But her questions became part of her faith journey, not obstacles to it. Sometimes answers come through continued obedience rather than while we sit waiting for clarity.

Reflection Question: What questions have you been afraid to bring before God? How might asking them actually deepen your faith?

Day 4: Surrendering Control

Reading: Luke 1:34-37; Proverbs 3:5-6

Devotional: When Mary asked, "How can this happen? I'm a virgin," the angel's response was simple yet profound: "Nothing is impossible with God." In that moment, Mary faced a choice—cling to control of her timeline, reputation, and expectations, or surrender to God's greater plan.

We spend enormous energy arranging our lives, organizing our plans, and maintaining control. We line up our ducks perfectly—until something disrupts everything. A medical diagnosis. An unexpected job loss. A relationship fracture. Suddenly we're reminded of what Mary learned: we were never truly in control.

The freedom Mary discovered wasn't in having all the answers or controlling outcomes. It was in trusting that God's power stood behind everything happening to her. When we surrender our need to captain our own ship, we discover the peace of knowing the Creator of the universe holds the helm. We don't need control to take action—we need trust in the One who is in control.

Reflection Question: Where are you exhausting yourself trying to maintain control instead of trusting God's sovereignty?

Day 5: Love Shows Up

Reading: John 19:25-27; 1 Corinthians 13:4-8

Devotional: Mary stood near the cross. As her son suffered unjustly, she remained. She couldn't leave, not only because Jesus was her child, but because He was her Lord and Savior. In her most painful moment, Mary teaches us that love shows up—even when it's excruciating to do so.

Love doesn't wait for convenient moments or comfortable circumstances. It doesn't calculate emotional cost before acting. Love compels us forward into difficult spaces, awkward conversations, and uncomfortable situations because the person matters more than our discomfort.

This is what differentiates followers of Christ: we love even when it's hard. We show up at the hospital bedside. We sit in silence with the grieving. We reach out to the neighbor we've avoided. We reconcile broken relationships. Mary's presence at the cross reminds us that the things worth living for—our families, our calling, our God—will sometimes break our hearts, but loving fiercely means loving loyally and completely.

Reflection Question: Who needs you to show up in love today, even though it will be difficult or uncomfortable for you?

Closing Prayer:

Heavenly Father, thank You for the example of Mary's faithful obedience. Help us say yes to Your calling without needing to know every cost. Teach us to embrace our entire lives as sacred offerings to You. Give us courage to bring our questions before You while continuing to walk in faith. Release us from our need to control outcomes, and empower us to love others sacrificially, even when it's difficult. May we, like Mary, treasure Your words in our hearts and ponder them often. In Jesus's name, Amen.