

Advent

Advent Begins With Favor

Pastor Aaron Williams

Luke 1:26-38

December 3, 2023

Introduction: Advent begins with Adventure. When we are introduced to the Jesus of scripture, we can't help but notice that Jesus lived an Adventurous life. When we read through the gospels, there was never a dull moment with Jesus. With the turning of every page, the disciples learned something new about Jesus and also about themselves. They were being spiritually stretched by following Jesus. To look at scripture through the lens of adventure. Life in Jesus Christ should never be boring. Jesus didn't call us to live a mediocre life. From the time he was born until the time of his death and resurrection, there is always this sense of adventure. "Every step we take in this world is a step toward either darkness or light. Every harsh word, every mean act, every vengeful thought is a part of the works of darkness. Every act of forgiveness, every small act of charity, every temptation resisted is a piece of the armor of light."

Prayer: Father, help us to again rejoice over this meeting between the Angel Gabriel and Mary. Amen

Review: What did you Pastor Aaron's sermon on Christ the King Sunday inspire you to do?

Read: Luke 1:26-38.

Discussion:

1. Is there a difference in Gabriel's greeting between "you are highly favored" and "the Lord is with you"? Similarities?
2. How did Gabriel respond to Mary being greatly troubled?
3. Why did Gabriel provide Mary with the details of Jesus's mission and rule?
4. Reflect on the question of Mary (verse 34) and Gabriel's answer. Was this a lack of faith on Mary's part? Different than the response of Zechariah? Explain.
5. What is your reaction/thoughts on Mary's commitment to what God has planned?

Application: Believe this week that there is nothing impossible with God, for you, for others and the world.

Prayer: Father, thank you for this text of Mary and the Angel Gabriel to begin Advent. Amen.