# **The Unexpectedness of Motherhood**

Luke 1:26-38

# Instructions

• Will you take your Bibles and turn to [Luke 1:26-38](https://ref.ly/logosref/Bible.Lk1.26-38)?

• Please search the Scriptures with us. We’re in the New Testament, which is in the last quarter of the Bible. Don’t be afraid to use your index.

• If you don’t have a Bible but have a smartphone, you can download the Y-O-U Version Bible App. Once you download it, you can go to the “More” tab, tap “Events,” and find Mt. Carmel Baptist Church, and you can see the Scripture, notes, quotes, and references.

# Context

Mary was a young, newly engaged yet unwed Jewish virgin from a small, obscure town called Nazareth, a city where those of lowly origin lived. Mary came from a poor family, a family who likely struggled to make ends meet. Because many know the end of the story, a sense of detachment sometimes creeps in. Often, we forget her profound humanness. We forget that Mary, the mother of Jesus, was not always Mary, *the* mother of Jesus. Mary is unexpectedly given the great responsibility of bringing a human life into the world. Her story stretches beyond being the mother of Jesus to an exemplary motherhood that men and women in all stages of life can relate to.

# Bible Verse

**Luke 1:26–38 CSB**

In the sixth month, the angel Gabriel was sent by God to a town in Galilee called Nazareth, to a virgin engaged to a man named Joseph, of the house of David. The virgin’s name was Mary. And the angel came to her and said, “Greetings, favored woman! The Lord is with you.” But she was deeply troubled by this statement, wondering what kind of greeting this could be. Then the angel told her, “Do not be afraid, Mary, for you have found favor with God. Now listen: You will conceive and give birth to a son, and you will name him Jesus. He will be great and will be called the Son of the Most High, and the Lord God will give him the throne of his father David. He will reign over the house of Jacob forever, and his kingdom will have no end.” Mary asked the angel, “How can this be, since I have not had sexual relations with a man?” The angel replied to her, “The Holy Spirit will come upon you, and the power of the Most High will overshadow you. Therefore, the holy one to be born will be called the Son of God. And consider your relative Elizabeth—even she has conceived a son in her old age, and this is the sixth month for her who was called childless. For nothing will be impossible with God.” “See, I am the Lord’s servant,” said Mary. “May it happen to me as you have said.” Then the angel left her.

### 1. An unexpected \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_.

**John 8:41 CSB**

You’re doing what your father does.” “We weren’t born of sexual immorality,” they said. “We have one Father—God.”

**Mark 6:3 CSB**

Isn’t this the carpenter, the Son of Mary, and the brother of James, Joses, Judas, and Simon? And aren’t his sisters here with us?” So they were offended by him.

### 2. An unexpected \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_.

**Luke 2:34–35 (CSB)** 34 Then Simeon blessed them and told his mother Mary, “Indeed, this child is destined to cause the fall and rise of many in Israel and to be a sign that will be opposed—35 and a sword will pierce your own soul—that the thoughts of many hearts may be revealed.”

**Luke 2:48–50 (CSB)** 48 When his parents saw him, they were astonished, and his mother said to him, “Son, why have you treated us like this? Your father and I have been anxiously searching for you.” 49 “Why were you searching for me?” he asked them. “Didn’t you know that it was necessary for me to be in my Father’s house?” 50 But they did not understand what he said to them.

**Matthew 12:46–50 (CSB)** 46 While he was still speaking with the crowds, his mother and brothers were standing outside wanting to speak to him. 47 Someone told him, “Look, your mother and your brothers are standing outside, wanting to speak to you.” 48 He replied to the one who was speaking to him, “Who is my mother and who are my brothers?” 49 Stretching out his hand toward his disciples, he said, “Here are my mother and my brothers! 50 For whoever does the will of my Father in heaven is my brother and sister and mother.”

### 3. An unexpected \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_. (John 19:25–27)

### 4. An unexpected \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_. (Acts 1:13-15)

# Take-Home Truth

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# Pray

“Dear Jesus, I confess I am a sinner and deserve judgment and hell, but I believe You love, came to this earth for me, lived a sinless life, and died on the Cross for my sins. I believe God raised you from the dead to forgive me. Please forgive me, come into my life, and grant me eternal life in You name. Help me to glorify you in all I do. In Jesus’ name, Amen.”

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Most gracious God, command your blessing yet upon your servant and her offspring. Let her not forget you and your mercies, but let her devote the life which you have given her to your service, and educate her offspring, as a holy seed, in the nurture and admonition of the Lord. Let her and her house serve you, and let holiness to the Lord be written upon all with which you bless her; let her make you her refuge and habitation; give her the ornament of a meek and quiet spirit, which in your sight is of great price, let her not love the world, nor mind earthly things. Restore her soul, and lead her in the paths of righteousness; though she must walk through the valley of the shadow of death, let her fear no evil; let your goodness and mercy follow her all the days of her life, and let her dwell forever in your glorious presence, through Jesus Christ, our Lord and Saviour. Amen.

RICHARD BAXTER