Redeeming Notes

Pastor John Niewald (Activity Center)
Pastoral Intern Chris Byars (Sanctuary)

"Divine Interruption", Luke 1:26-38

December 18, 2005

---

1) Recognizing Divine Interruption:

Mary was a part of a social group called the **Anawim** ("faithful poor")

A divine interruption is usually a summons to **servanthood** - not **convenience**, **ease**, **wealth** or **power**.

IQ - interrupt-ability quotient

Names:_____

1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10
not open									very open

2) How do you respond to divine interruption?

"I am the Lord's **servant**," Mary answered. "May it be to me as you have said."

Servant in Greek, "doulos", means **slave**.

Question: Am I really the Lord's servant, or is it just nice moving language to use until the cost gets too high?

3) Outcome of Obedience

Obedience to God's interruption leads to **joy**.

Mary says, "My spirit **rejoices** in God my Savior".

Her expression of joy occurs **before** she has seen any of the **results**.

You can magnify your **problems** or you can magnify the **Lord**.

FOR SMALL GROUP DISCUSSION:

1. Share a time when you heard God interrupt you. How did you respond?
2. Discuss the results of the "interrupt-ability" quotient (IQ) test.
3. Mary's response to God was, "I am the Lord's servant, may it be to me as you have said." In what situation or area of your life do you need to say that prayer to God?
4. Mary rejoiced in the Lord and magnified God in the midst of her very trying circumstances. In what trying circumstance can you learn from Mary?
5. It was stated in the message that you can magnify your problems or magnify the Lord. How is this statement true for you and in what way?