

What to do When... you Don't Understand the Assignment

Mothers Day 2022

When life gets crazy... when the past comes calling again... when you feel inadequate? You have to remember the assignments God has given you to fulfill His Purpose in your life. This is the will of God, and you gave a choice.

Jesus said, whoever chooses to do the will of God will find out that my teachings are from God.

Since it is Mother's Day, I would love to take a few moments and talk about the specific challenges that relate directly to Jesus loving, bible believing women. (any Jesus loving bible believing women here today?!)

The fires of the Culture War in America has been burning for years, but now with the possible reversal of Roe v Wade we are seeing a more explosive conflict than ever before.

I find it so interesting that the rights, identity, liberty, and privileges of women are at the center of the cultural/moral conflict in America.

This is not a surprise ladies... You have been a target of since the beginning of time.

JOKE: Some the pompous males like to use the scripture that says *men were created first* to say that men are superior. The other day I was thinking how often the first things we create are never as good as our second try!

Like cooking that first pot of gumbo! It came out okay, but with one taste you are automatically thinking, a little more salt, and garlic and a dash cayenne... would make it better.

So God created the first human man and then said, aw man he needs some help! So then he created a spiced up human and said that's nice! SPICEY! They are gonna have fun now!

Ladies, the battle is real! the bullseye is on your back! You are a target. Just like your great, great, great, great grandmother before you in the Garden of Eden. The slithering, deceiving, lying serpent is still trying to drive a wedge between you and God and you and your family. He wants to drive you out of God's presence. He wants you to depend upon yourself and your own opinion rather than to depend upon God, His word, His plan, His will for your life.

Ladies you were created with Purpose! There are God given assignments waiting for you to discover and accomplish. Satan will do anything he can to use the philosophies of the world and the cultural pressures of the day to distract you from the incredible pleasures awaiting you in the will of God.

Through grief, guilt, grudges, shame and sorrow and regret you are often left in a constant state of desperate survival and striving for your sanity.

Since it's Mother's Day and one of your greatest assignments is the privilege of motherhood I would like take a look at the most famous mother ever, the mother of Jesus – Mary.

Hopefully we can learn somethings from how she managed her God Given Assignment.

Luke 1:26-35 NLT In the sixth month of Elizabeth's pregnancy (mother of John the Baptist), God sent the angel Gabriel to Nazareth, a village in Galilee, 27 to a virgin named Mary. She was engaged to be married to a man named Joseph, a descendant of King David. 28 Gabriel appeared to her and said, "Greetings, favored woman! The

Lord is with you!" 29 Confused and disturbed, Mary tried to think what the angel could mean. 30 "Don't be afraid, Mary," the angel told her, "for you have found favor with God! 31 You will conceive and give birth to a son, and you will name him Jesus. 32 He will be very great and will be called the Son of the Most High. The Lord God will give him the throne of his ancestor David. 33 And he will reign over Israel forever; his Kingdom will never end!" 34 Mary asked the angel, "But how can this happen? I am a virgin." 35 The angel replied, "The Holy Spirit will come upon you, and the power of the Most High will overshadow you. So, the baby to be born will be holy, and he will be called the Son of God.

Since we are talking about babies and motherhood today, perhaps I can make a couple of statement concerning the Abortion issue.

People say the abortion issue is so complicated! Is it? It's a baby!

Gabriel told Mary, it's a baby... baby to be born. Luke 1:41 NIV When Elizabeth heard Mary's greeting, the baby leaped in her womb.

Its baby with a heartbeat, a baby that was conceived and created for a life!

Now more than ever, through 3d and 4d imaging we can look into the womb and see... it's a baby! Sentiments have changed some since 1970's

But, we have to protect the rights of women, but what about the rights of the yet to be born women?

- Just want you to know that we are asking God to show us how we at CL can be more involved in helping women who are overwhelmed with an unplanned and unwanted pregnancy.
- We have got to roll up our sleeves and get in that arena! Standy for more info on this issue.

What to do when:

When you have more questions than answers? (anybody ever been there?)

1) This is the condition Mary found herself in.

- a) NTS - Just imagine it
 - i) When this happened, Mary was a young teenager.
 - ii) She's probably around fourteen or fifteen years old.
 - iii) She doesn't have a lot of life's experience, but she does know how babies are made.
 - iv) And she is an engaged virgin.

2) The Bible said she is **confused** and **disturbed**.

Mary asked the angel, "But **how** can this happen? I am a virgin." 35 The angel replied, "The Holy Spirit will come upon you, and the power of the Most High will overshadow you.

- a) Exactly what does that mean? What will my parents think... what will my husband do?
- b) God not only allowed her to be put in a compromising situation he orchestrated it.
- c) The potential loss of the relationship... overwhelming!

Matthew's account tells us that Joseph intended to end the engagement quietly because of the pregnancy. Too much shame for him, the assignment was just too big. He was ready to run the other way.

- 3) **So many questions:** what? now who are you? a baby? I'm not married and I've never had sex before... How can This Be?
- a) **For many, your own teenage years were difficult.**
- i) You may have encountered the SHAME: a series of inappropriate sexual encounters; maybe even an unplanned pregnancy.
- b) **Many women can related to this:** So many questions... may have encountered loss, a divorce, a death, the cancer that took your mom... And you have wondered so many times WHY?

What to do when you have more questions than answers? Submit your past, present, and future fully to the Will of God!

- 4) **I love the way Mary dealt with her unanswered questions:** Luke 1:38 NLT "Mary responded, **"I am the Lord's servant. May everything you have said about me come true."** And then the angel left her.
- a) Though you may not understand how to all the things God is asking of you... you can at least settle this issue.... **I Am The Lord's!** I belong to him! (the good the bad the ugly; my past my present and my future)
- b) Seems too hard? **Not if you have transferred owner of your life to God.**
- i) When Mary said how can this be... the angel of the Lord said simply, **"Nothing is impossible with God (Luke 1:37 ESV)**
- ii) So when you are feeling unworthy are inadequate of a God-given Assignment (home or work or in marriage) do what James instructed you. **James 4:7 ESV Submit yourselves therefore to God. Resist the devil, and he will flee from you.**
- 5) Lets **Broaden** out our application of this Message: **We are all pregnant with purpose today!**
- a) There is a conceived assignment growing in your spiris today. (Metaphorically speaking)
- b) **Realize** that in the Spirit – the devil defeating life of God in you! **You may not be carrying the Son of God in your womb, but you are pregnant with purpose.**
- c) What I mean is this... **there are things God wants to birth through you.** **Assignments** that already exist inside of you waiting to be **discovered, cultivated, and birthed.**

There may be no answers to your painful yesterdays, but Jesus has the answers to all of your tomorrows!

what to do when...

When you are troubled by your assignment?

Luke 1:29 NIV "Mary was greatly troubled at his words..."

Examples of troubling assignments: **parent this child, love this husband, work for this boss**, or how about this one **take care of my aging parents**.

1) **Ladies, life will never be completely trouble free!**

Matthew 6:34 NIV "... do not worry about tomorrow, for tomorrow will worry about itself. Each day has enough trouble of its own"

2) Challenging because **I think there is a natural instinct inside of every woman to control her environment.**

a) You can see it **on the playground watching** 5 and 6 year old kids.

The little girls are typically standing there with hands on their hips pointing at the boys to get in line.

"You stand there" "you hold this" "you wait your turn". If there is a conflict, **it is usually between 2 or 3 of the little girls because they all want to be in charge.** They all want to boss the boys around.

Let's admit it. **In a crowd this size many of you are control freaks.**

b) Have you ever noticed how most mom's are always thinking safety first?!

i) One thing I have learned being married to Kerri, is telling her to worry about her kids is like tell her to stop breathing!

3) **Men... I have also learned, their brains are different than ours!** (Waffles vs Spagetti)

a) I recently heard a psychologist explaining the differences...

i) **A man's brain is like a waffle.** It has a bunch of squares or sections that can be separated.

ii) **A woman's brain is like a bowl of spaghetti!** Everything is connected!

b) Women

i) **Women typically connect all their thoughts** while men can move from one square to next with no problem. (women: everything is connected; men not its not!)

(1) **Its why women seem to be so complicated and men so simple-minded.**

ii) **It why they ask so many questions:**

(1) **What's wrong with you?** what do you mean... **you're so quiet?** Can't think of anything to say? **You don't love me!**

(2) **Who were you texting? Why did you park there? what did you eat for lunch? Who was with you? what did you talk about?** The answers to all these questions are in different squares to a man.

iii) **For a woman everything is connected:** This is one of the things that make them **Good** and **Spicy** at the same time!

But this also why an assignment can be so troubling... because everything is connected. How did Mary prepare herself for the fall out?

- 4) Use your motherly instinct and desire to protect and provide but give up your unhealthy need to control everything and everybody in your life!
 - a) Here's the principle: Whatever is troubling your life right now is probably bugging you because you can't control it. Understand that although it's out of your control, it's not out of God's control.
- 5) There are things that God brings to our life that are often both **Thrilling** and **Troubling** at the same time.
 - a) When Mary understood this, she stopped worrying and she started trusting. She relaxed and her response was instant and it was simple.
 - b) Luke 1:38 LIV Paraphrased "Mary responded, 'I am the Lord's servant. I am willing to accept whatever He wants. [Hear the submission, the attitude of surrender: I am willing to accept whatever He wants.] May everything you have said come true.'"
 - c) The secret of peace is let go. Let go of control. Let God handle it. Mary says, "I'm giving up control. I yield to God. I surrender to His will. I give it up." It's called faith.
 - d) For all of us Control Freaks (both men and women) I have two verses"
- 6) Three important things to know about God Assignments:
 - a) God's plans are bigger than mine.
 - b) God's plans are nearly always harder than I imagined.
 - c) God's plans are always better than my plans.

What to do when you are troubled by your assignment? Let go of your need to control everything and trust God.

what to do when....

When you are burdened beyond your strength?

What do you do when the burden of the assignment is more than you can handle? **Let others help you out!**

Let others help you out.

Ladies, please learn from Mary...

- 1) When Mary was overwhelmed by the assignment of motherhood she went for help!

Look at Luke 1:39 – 45 NIV **39** At that time Mary got ready and hurried to a town in the hill country of Judea, **40** where she entered Zechariah's home and greeted Elizabeth. **41** When Elizabeth heard Mary's greeting, the baby leaped in her womb, and Elizabeth was filled with the Holy Spirit. **42** In a loud voice she exclaimed: "Blessed are you among women, and blessed is the child you will bear! **43** But why am I so favored, that the mother of my Lord should come to me? **44** As soon as the sound of your greeting reached my ears, the baby in my womb leaped for joy. **45** Blessed is she who has believed that the Lord would fulfill his promises to her!"

And Mary stayed 3 months with her cousin Elizabeth.

2) Elizabeth was the cousin of Mary. But that's not important. **What is important is who Elizabeth was to Mary.**

a) **FIRST, she was a very godly woman who knew how to hear from God.**

b) **SECOND, she was an older godly woman with more life experiences.**

Titus 2:4-5 ISV Older women "... should encourage the younger women to be lovers of their husbands, lovers of their children, **5** sensible, pure, managers of their households..."

Ladies you don't have to go it alone! **This is one of the great benefits of being in a life-giving church.**

c) **THIRD, she was also pregnant with her own assignment!**

In fact, Elizabeth was pregnant with her own miracle pregnancy. She and her husband had been childless all throughout life and right at the end, God enabled her to conceive through her husband (this wasn't a virgin birth) and she was carrying, John the Baptist. It was a miracle pregnancy. She was six months pregnant.

i) Here's the point, when you're burdened by your assignment you need to find an Elizabeth. **You need an Elizabeth in your life.**

ii) **Where are the Elizabeth's of CL? We need you!**

What to do when you are burdened beyond your strength? Let others help you out!

Conclusion: **What if you can't find anyone to help? Or the people in your life just cannot relate?**

There is always help for you with the Holy Spirit.

- Remember Gabriel told Mary "**The Holy Spirit will come upon you**" "**The most High will overshadow you**"
- **Luke 1:41 GNT** When Elizabeth heard Mary's greeting, the baby moved within her. Elizabeth was filled with the Holy Spirit.
- **John 14:26 GNT** The **Helper**, the Holy Spirit, whom the Father will send in my name, **will teach you everything** and make you remember all that I have told you.

The best counsel I can give you today is this:

When you don't understand your assignment or when the assignment seems too big for you, ask the Holy Spirit for help.

He will come upon you. He will give you power. He is your helper!