

Advent Calendar: Day 6

The reflections for this week are centered around the readings for this Sunday's texts
Isaiah 7:10-14, 1 Timothy 3:16, Luke 1:26-38

Luke 1:38

Then Mary said, "Here am I, the servant of the Lord;
let it be with me according to your word."

While unpopular within a culture that desires immediate self gratification and seeks only those truths arising from it's own biases; obedience and servanthood are two words that are indispensable to the life of a Christian. Like Mary, we realize serving is the defining characteristic that makes our "love" greater than just the desire to possess what makes us feel good. Serving helps us escape a world defined by our selfish wants and transforms us to be vessels of a divine love that frees us to bless others. Furthermore, this obedience to God's design is fundamental to an earnest faith that trust God's way above our own in both the superiority of His wisdom and the authenticity of His desire to bless us. God knows best and wants the best for us, to do anything other than obey Him is to invite folly and disappointment. Mary's willingness to serve and obey enabled her to be a vessel of God's life-giving presence. God wishes to enable us in the same way. Are we willing?

Exercise your discipline to obey and serve by obediently saying no to one selfish indulgence this holiday season and by saying yes to one opportunity to serve in the pattern of Jesus. Do both in joy and gratitude, without fanfare or public acknowledgement. How has this exercise informed your trust in God's good design for your life?