



# NO PLACE LIKE GRACE

## EMMANUEL: REVIVAL IN THE RUIN DEVOTION AND DISCUSSION GUIDE

### Isaiah 7:13-14 ESV

<sup>13</sup> And he said, “Hear then, O house of David! Is it too little for you to weary men, that you weary my God also? <sup>14</sup> Therefore the Lord himself will give you a sign. Behold, the virgin shall conceive and bear a son, and shall call his name Immanuel.

### Luke 1:35-38 ESV

<sup>35</sup> And the angel answered her, “The Holy Spirit will come upon you, and the power of the Most High will overshadow you; therefore the child to be born will be called holy—the Son of God. <sup>36</sup> And behold, your relative Elizabeth in her old age has also conceived a son, and this is the sixth month with her who was called barren. <sup>37</sup> For nothing will be impossible with God.” <sup>38</sup> And Mary said, “Behold, I am the servant of the Lord; let it be to me according to your word.” And the angel departed from her.

### Opening Thoughts:

- The meaning of the word *Emmanuel* is “God with us.” What does this mean for you, right now in your present circumstances? How is God with you right now in this season?
- Read John 1:1, 14 and reflect on the verses above in Isaiah. The moment the divine seed of God was deposited by the Holy Spirit into the womb of Mary, Mary experienced “God with her” for the first time. She would never be the same because of what was growing on the inside of her.
- Reflect on an “Emmanuel Moment” in your life. How did that moment change you forever. Do you live in anticipation of Emmanuel Moments?

**Key Takeaway:** An Emmanuel Moment is when eternity steps into our present and revival is born in the ruin.

- Mary’s story is often romanticized, but it was far more scandalous than glamorous.
- Mary said yes to three things.

### 1) Mary Said Yes to Ridicule

- Read Luke 1:26-34. Imagine Mary’s life at the time of the announcement that came from Gabriel. How would this announcement have ruined her life? In verse 30 God called Mary, *favored*. What were her family and friends calling her?

- When you had your first Emmanuel Moment, in what ways did you receive ridicule? How did you keep your resolve to keep saying YES?

## 2) Mary Said Yes to Rejection

- Read Matthew 1:18-25. Imagine the rejection Joseph and Mary experienced because of what Mary was carrying on the inside of her. Has there been a seed planted by the Holy Spirit inside of you? If so, have you experienced opposition or rejection? How has this brought you closer to the Lord?
- “Let them reject me, that I might experience Christ in me.” Can you speak these words honestly in this season of your life?

## 3) Mary Said Yes to Ruin

- In Luke 1:38 Mary said YES. Even though any dreams her and Joseph had together from that time forward were forever ruined, Mary wouldn’t have had it any other way.
- Can you think of something in your life that seemed like ruin at the time, but turned out to be a great blessing? Is there someone in your life right now that you could share that testimony with as encouragement?

**Key Takeaway:** An Emmanuel Moment is when eternity steps into our present and revival is born in the ruin.

- When Mary said YES to Emmanuel, she said YES to the Ridicule, Rejection, and Ruin.
- Mary’s YES changed everything.

## 1) Because of the Ridicule Mary had Reward

- Read Matthew 5:11-12. What are some rewards you have reaped following Christ that far outweigh the ridicule you received for making the choice to follow Him?

## 2) Because of the Rejection Mary had Refuge

- Read Luke 1:39-45. Mary found refuge with Elizabeth, who was the only person that would be able to understand what was happening inside of her. Who has the Lord given to you that can understand that which is growing inside of you? Have others prophesied into your life that you revisit as a place of refuge?

## 3) Because of the Ruin Mary had Revival

- Mary was the first person to carry revival in her womb. She guarded that seed through ridicule, rejection, and ruin. Are you ready to guard all that you are holding on the inside?

## Application:

- **Key Takeaway:** An Emmanuel Moment is when eternity steps into our present and revival is born in the ruin.
- You carry a life-altering event within you! Christ in you can bring revival to your home, family, work place, and community.
- You can take the ridicule, the rejection, the ruin—revival is worth it!
- Every day is an opportunity for an Emmanuel Moment!