

Monday, December 22, 2014

*And Mary said: "My soul exalts the Lord, and my spirit has rejoiced in God my Savior. For He has had regard for the humble state of His bondservant; for behold, from this time on all generations will count me blessed." **Luke 1:46-48***

These are Mary's words as she responds to Elizabeth's welcome. Elizabeth knows that Mary is carrying the son of God because her unborn child "leaps" inside her womb as Mary approaches Elizabeth's home.

Mary humbly proclaims God's goodness and greatness in her proclamation of faith. As Mary says these words to rejoice in God's greatness, she teaches us how to receive God's favor. We see through her example that we must come into the presence of God with a humble heart, understanding that we are who we are because God has chosen us. She accepts the baby growing inside of her as a gift from God. As she acknowledges this gift, she accepts it without any reservations. It was a true gift and she accepts it freely.

As one continues reading the Magnificat (Luke 1:46-55), Mary continues to verbalize the reality of our never failing God.

Mary is about to experience a responsibility to that soon to be born Son of God; the child that God gave her. She would need to nurture Him and protect Him. She would watch Him grow and watch Him suffer, but watch Him eventually prevail. This is what we all should realize as Christians. After we accept this gift from God, we must grow as Christians, possibly endure hardships because of our beliefs, but most importantly, we believe in the promise that God (as Mary proclaims) will prevail.

*Dear Father, As we humble ourselves before You, we thank You for Jesus, Your gift of salvation. Help us remember to hold onto You in faith as You mold us and make us more like Your Son. In Jesus' Holy Name. Amen.*

**Mary Wratishaw**

(Submitted in 2008)