

CHAPTER 6

THE PROMISE BECOMES FLESH



LUKE 1:26-38

“**A** bba,” Mila whispered, “after the angel spoke to Zechariah, did heaven speak again?” Matthew’s eyes glimmered. “Yes,” he said softly, unrolling the scroll a little farther. “But not in the temple this time, and not to a priest. Heaven’s next message came in a place no one expected.”

He continued. “Far from Jerusalem, beyond the hills of Galilee, was a small village called Nazareth. It wasn’t famous or important. No prophet had come from there. No king had called it home. To most, it was ordinary.” Judah frowned. “So why there?” Matthew smiled. “Because, my son, God often chooses the places no one else notices.”

He continued. “In a simple stone house lived a young woman named Mary. She was betrothed to a man named Joseph. They dreamed of a wedding, a family, a life that honoured God.” He looked at Mila. “Mary was young, but her faith was strong. She loved God’s Word and prayed for the day He would send the Messiah. She never imagined that day would begin in her own home.”

He lowered his voice. “One evening, Nazareth was quiet. Lamps glowed in windows. The night was still. Then suddenly the room filled with light.” Mila gasped softly. “A figure stood before her,” Matthew said. “He hadn’t come through the door; he was simply there. His robe shone like starlight. His face was calm and steady, wrapped in glory. Mary froze, her heart racing.”

Judah whispered, “An angel?” “Yes,” said Matthew. “The angel said, ‘Greetings, O favored one, the Lord is with you!’ Mary was greatly troubled and tried to understand what kind of greeting this might be. Angels had spoken to Abraham, Gideon, and Daniel. But she was just a young woman from Nazareth. What could this mean?”

Matthew leaned closer to his children. “Then the angel spoke again: ‘Do not be afraid, Mary, for you have found favor with God. And behold, you will conceive in your womb and bear a son, and you shall call His name Jesus.’” “Jesus,” Mila repeated softly. “Yes,” Matthew said. “The angel continued,

‘He will be great and will be called the Son of the Most High. And the Lord God will give to Him the throne of His father David, and He will reign over the house of Jacob forever, and of His kingdom there will be no end.’”

Judah’s eyes widened. “The throne of David? That means—the King!” Matthew smiled. “Yes, my son. The long-promised King, the Messiah.”

He continued, “Mary’s heart pounded. She said, ‘How will this be, since I am a virgin?’ She did not doubt; she simply longed to understand. The angel replied, ‘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.’”

He looked at them tenderly. “The same Spirit who hovered over the waters at creation would now bring life within her. The eternal Son of God would take on flesh in her womb. The Maker of stars would borrow her heartbeat. The Holy One would enter our world.”

Mila’s eyes shone. “So God’s Spirit made the baby grow inside her?” Matthew nodded. “Yes. And to strengthen her faith, the angel said, ‘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. For nothing will be impossible with God.’”

Mila smiled. “Elizabeth—the one who couldn’t have children!” “Yes,” said Matthew. “God’s faithfulness to one woman became a sign for the other. Mary’s eyes filled with tears. She didn’t understand everything, but she knew God could be trusted.”

Matthew’s voice softened to a reverent whisper. “Then she said the words that changed everything: ‘Behold, I am the servant of the Lord; let it be to me according to your word.’ And with that, the angel departed from her.” He rolled up the scroll and smiled. “Heaven’s silence was broken once more. The promise had become flesh.”

Unveiling the Story

When the angel Gabriel appeared to Mary, it was the moment creation had been waiting for since Eden. The promise God made in the garden—that the offspring of the woman would crush the serpent’s head—was finally being fulfilled. The promise given to Abraham—that through his family all nations would be blessed—was taking shape. And the promise made to David—that one of his descendants would reign forever—was about to come true.

The angel’s message revealed something the world had never seen before: the eternal Son of God would become human. The One who spoke the universe into being would now enter His own creation. The same God who once filled the temple with His glory would now dwell within Mary’s womb. The infinite would become an infant.

When Gabriel said, “The Holy Spirit will come upon you, and the power of the Most High will overshadow you,” he was describing how the incarnation—the miracle of God becoming flesh—would take place. The virgin conception is one of the cornerstones of the Christian faith. Jesus had to be born in a way unlike anyone else. If He had been conceived in the ordinary way, He would have inherited the same sinful nature that we all share from Adam. But by the power of the Holy Spirit, Jesus was born holy—fully human, yet without sin.

Living the Story

Sometimes we read about Mary’s encounter with the angel Gabriel, but we don’t stop to think about what must have gone through her mind. Mary wasn’t naïve. She knew where babies came from—through the union of a man and a woman in

marriage. But she and Joseph had not come together. She had never been with any man.

That's why she asked Gabriel, "How will this be, since I am a virgin?" Her question wasn't like Zechariah's; she wasn't demanding a sign. Mary's question flowed from wonder. She longed to understand how something impossible could happen. But Gabriel didn't answer her the way she expected. He simply reminded her that nothing is too hard for God. And with a trusting heart, Mary surrendered to God's plan.

Perhaps you've been asking God to explain something in your life—a problem you don't understand, a prayer that feels unanswered, or a worry that won't go away. But sometimes God doesn't explain everything. Sometimes He simply says, "Trust Me," just as He did with Mary. He's looking for willing hearts that believe His Word, trust His character, and say, "Yes, Lord," even when it's hard.

When you believe that God's plans are good and His promises are true, you find courage to face the unknown. And just like Mary, your trust becomes a beautiful act of worship that brings God glory.

Discussing the Story

1. Why was it important that Jesus was conceived in a miraculous way through the power of the Holy Spirit?
2. Mary didn't understand how God's plan would happen, but she still trusted Him. What is something in your life right now that you don't understand and need to trust God with?
3. Why do you think God doesn't always give us answers to our questions?
4. How does remembering that "nothing is too hard for God" help you face difficult moments with courage?

5. Mary said, “I am the servant of the Lord.” What are some ways you can practice being a servant like Mary at home, at school, or with your friends?

Remembering the Story

“I am the Lord’s servant,” Mary answered. “May your word to me be fulfilled.” Then the angel left her.—Luke 1:38