

Welcome – Today’s service is about life. It is about your life by way of testimonies but mainly it is about Jesus’s life, not just then but now! Let’s consider the words of those who walked on this earth with Jesus

Read 1 John 1:1-4 NKJV

*“That which was from the beginning, which we have heard, which we have seen with our eyes, which we have looked upon, and our hands have handled, concerning the Word of life— (2) the life was manifested, and we have seen, and bear witness, and declare to you that eternal life which was with the Father and was manifested to us— (3) that which we have seen and heard we declare to you, that you also may have fellowship with us; and truly our fellowship is with the Father and with His Son Jesus Christ. (4) And these things we write to you that your joy may be full.”*

Prayer

**Emmanuel – God with Us the Hope of Glory!**

**Luke 1:39–45 (NKJV)**

**Introduction:**

Jesus Knocking By John Woodward in Gracenotes

The story is told of a child's sincere faith:

A nurse on the pediatric ward, before listening to the little ones' chests, would plug the stethoscope into their ears and let them listen to their own hearts. Their eyes would always light up with awe, but she never got a response equal to four-year-old David's comment. Gently she tucked the stethoscope into his ears and placed the disc over his heart.

"Listen," she said ... "What do you suppose that is?"

He drew his eyebrows together in a puzzled line and looked up as if lost in the mystery of the strange tap-tap-tapping deep in his chest. Then his face broke out in a wondrous grin, and he asked, "Is that Jesus knocking?"

Mary had the same awe-struck wonder when she heard the angelic announcement about Jesus' incarnation:

*Jim Freed*

## 1. Events surrounding Jesus conception – imagine Mary’s humanity

### *Mary Visits Elizabeth*

*<sup>39</sup> Now Mary arose in those days and went into the hill country with haste, to a city of Judah, <sup>40</sup> and entered the house of Zacharias and greeted Elizabeth. <sup>41</sup> And it happened, when Elizabeth heard the greeting of Mary that the babe leaped in her womb; and Elizabeth was filled with the Holy Spirit. <sup>42</sup> Then she spoke out with a loud voice and said, “Blessed are you among women, and blessed is the fruit of your womb! <sup>43</sup> But why is this granted to me, that the mother of my Lord should come to me? <sup>44</sup> For indeed, as soon as the voice of your greeting sounded in my ears, the babe leaped in my womb for joy. <sup>45</sup> Blessed is she who believed, for there will be a fulfillment of those things which were told her from the Lord.”*

- A. **Unpublicized** (unlike the royal pregnancy)
- B. **Unexpected** (many pregnancies are)
- C. **Unprecedented** (the immaculate conception)

## 2. Personal Observations about pregnancy

- A. **Joy – Radiance**
- B. **Strength –Can perform difficult tasks**
- C. **Purpose – Reason for living**

## 3. Jesus life in us (it isn’t about our life, it is about HIS LIFE)

John 10:9-11 NKJV - *(9) “I am the door. If anyone enters by Me, he will be saved, and will go in and out and find pasture. (10) The thief does not come except to steal, and to kill, and to destroy. I have come that they may have life, and that they may have it more abundantly. (11) “I am the good shepherd. The good shepherd gives His life for the sheep.”*

## 4. Jesus had to lose His human life before He could possess resurrection life

2 Corinthians 4:7-12 NKJV *(7) But we have this treasure in earthen vessels, that the excellence of the power may be of God and not of us. (8) We are hard-pressed on every side, yet not crushed; we are perplexed, but not in despair; (9) persecuted, but not forsaken; struck down, but not destroyed— (10) always carrying about in the body the dying of the Lord Jesus, that the life of Jesus also may be manifested in our body.*

## 5. You need to lose your human life before YOU can walk in newness of life

Romans 6:4-5 NKJV *(4) “Therefore we were buried with Him through baptism into death, that just as Christ was raised from the dead by the glory of the Father, even so we also should walk in newness of life. (5) For if we have been united together in the likeness of His death, certainly we also shall be in the likeness of His resurrection,”*