



# WONDER

Luke 1:50 - 12/9/18

## OVERVIEW

Fear is an emotion that most of us try to avoid. But if you've ever stood before an authority figure that would determine your fate, or on the top of a skyscraper, or at the edge of a vast canyon, then you've experienced healthy fear. The kind that is intertwined with amazement, awe, and reverence. The Christmas story showcases and beautifully reframes fear and highlights why we celebrate a God that is just, merciful, and awe-inspiring. In this message, you will learn more about the role fear played in Mary's experience and be challenged to examine the many ways an all-powerful God has never stopped giving mercy to those who fear him.

Scripture: Luke 1:50

## APPLICATION

1. Dave talked about standing at the edge of the Grand Canyon and feeling fear and wonder at the same time. Share about a time in your life when you've felt something similar?
2. Luke 1:50 says, "His (God's) mercy is for those who fear him from generation to generation." Dave describes mercy as "undeserved kindness." Name two or three times when someone has shown you mercy. In those moments, were you afraid? Why?
3. Mary doesn't focus her attention on the worldly things or obstacles around her, but instead she allows wonder to help her recognize her purpose in life. How are you being controlled by fear instead of seeing God's wonder?
4. If you have felt wonder in your life, what did it teach you about God? Or about yourself? (Ex. Some situations where people commonly feel wonder: birth of a child, love, nature, baptism, etc.)

HOMEWORK: Mary chooses to embrace the wonder of God by saying in Luke 1:38b, "...let it be to me according to your word." She gives God free reign in her life, and by doing this, she embraces the wonder. This week, ask Him to give you faith to overcome your fear by saying... "let it be to me according to your word."