

Christmas Eve 2019  
BE BORN IN ME

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**Mary's Uniqueness**

Mary Did You Know

The one chosen to bear God come in the flesh  
It is right that she is honored in the church

**Mary as "Every Christian"**

There is a sense in which we are all called to "birth Christ"

Christ in us versus us in Christ

Jesus says in John 14:20: "I in you"

Paul says in Galatians 4:19: I am in anguish in childbirth until Christ is formed in you

Paul says in Colossians 1:27: Christ in you the hope of glory

Jesus says in Rev 3:20: Behold I stand at the door and knock--I will come in

**We Like Mary Have Opportunity to Bring Christ into the World**

Beachhead: the place where God has placed you as a window through which He wants to come

Your place may seem as ordinary, but so was the manger in Bethlehem!

Our job is to bear forth Christ with words and actions

God will cause the shepherds of our world to come close: the Persons of Peace

God is able to put a star in the sky and show Jesus to those He wants to show

God is able to cause the Magi of our worlds to come

**Like Mary This Will Cost Us**

Like Mary our personal comfort: will be challenged

Like Mary we will likely be misunderstood when God asks things of us

When Jesus is defamed, or misunderstood, or rejected--we will feel it deeply

**But Also Like Mary We Are Given an Intimate Personal Relationship with Jesus**

Jesus, suffering on the cross for the sins of the world, looks at Mary and tends to her needs

She didn't get lost in the midst of His cosmic business

And neither will we

To bear Jesus is always and forever to be intimately linked to Him and Him to us

**But We Like Mary Have to Say Yes**

She said, "I am the Lord's servant. May it be done unto me according to Your word."

And so us: whether for the first time: to yield ourselves to Jesus, to hand over the reins

In this we begin the new life, with a new heart, with Jesus through His Spirit in us!

But those of us who said once once, have to keep saying yes, keep bringing Jesus into our worlds everyday, with fresh cost and fresh intimacy