

## The Heart of Mary

By Dan Jenkins

Looking carefully into the heart of Mary, the mother of Jesus, can teach us so much about dealing with what God has said to us even when we do not understand it. She obviously knew the words from heaven’s messenger and believed them. Gabriel said, “You will conceive in your womb and bring forth a Son, and shall call His name Jesus” (Luke 1:31). She knew the words were true, she understood them to the best of her knowledge. These very words were in her unwritten “Bible”—the same words in our written Scriptures. How did she respond? “How can this be, since I do not know a man?”

Isn’t that what happens to us as we hear the messages from heaven when we read the Scripture? We know what is said, but we try to figure out what they mean and how they apply to our lives. Unbelievers may deny what is said and ignore God’s words. We are not like them. We know they are true but immediately seek to find the meaning of the words.

There was so much that was happening in Mary’s life. Did she fully understand the words of Elizabeth, the mother of John the Baptist? Was it possible that she might have known what the scribes knew about the city where Jesus was born? Is it possible she made that eighty-mile journey from Nazareth to Bethlehem having insight about how God was working in her life to fulfil His will? We do not know. We read the words and we know “the rest of the story.” She heard the words of God, but there was no way she could understand them as fully as we do.

After the shepherds left her with the Child wrapped in swaddling clothes lying in that manger, the Bible says, “But Mary kept all these things...in her heart” (Luke 2:19). They had told her what they had seen in the field and heard the words from heaven that the child wrapped in swaddling clothes was the Messiah (Luke 2:11). There had to be so many unanswered questions, but she kept every word she had heard in her heart.

The text says even more. “But Mary kept all these things and pondered them in her heart.” One Greek scholar says this about the word “pondered.” “Placing together for comparison. Mary would go over each detail in the words of Gabriel and of the shepherds and compared the saying with the facts so far developed and brood over it all with a mother’s high hopes and joys.”

So, as you read the Bible and find difficult verses, do not ever forget them. Keep the words in your heart and ponder over them. Sometimes it may take a long time to sort things out, but never set them aside. Keep them, ponder over them and as you hunger and thirst you will be filled (Matt. 5:6).

## Things you should know about...

We would like to send donations to the Disaster Relief Fund quarterly. If you want to contribute, mark it as “DRF” or give the money to Jason. The next donation will be sent after the end of June.

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### HAPPY BIRTHDAY

Kyle Buckingham 6/7  
Phyllis Caldwell 6/9  
Reed Rohr 6/13  
Evelyn Lam 6/14

Tom Butts 6/19  
Carol Kemp 6/21  
Aiden Rohr 6/21  
Patsy Muter 6/29

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### Happy Anniversary!

Tom & Patsy Muter 6/10  
Curt & Shandar Thompson 6/21  
Tom & Sherilyn Butts 6/21  
Rick & Lois Ferris 6/25

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Join us at our Family Life Workshop on June 24-25:

Parenting in the Digital Age

Presented by a team from the Lebanon Rd. Church of Christ in TN.

June 24: 9:30-2:00

June 25: 9:30 & 10:30

Be sure to pick up a flyer to invite family and friends to join us. We will also have our potluck lunch after morning services on Sunday.

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Ladies Bible Study - The God of All Comfort  
Thursday, June 29<sup>th</sup> @ 6:45pm

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#### Serving AM & PM today and next Sunday AM:

Sunday Rotation	June 4, 2023 AM	June 4, 2023 PM	June 11 2023 AM
Greeter	Dustin Desarro	Rick Ferris	Tom Muter
Announcements	Jason Bang		Tim Bang
Song Leading	Duane Kemp		Duane Kemp
Opening Prayer/Usher Left	Seth Arrell	Tim Bang	Chris McGiffin
Lord's Supper Comments	Tom Muter	Duane Kemp	Owen Whittington
Scripture Reading	Jason Bang	Tom Muter	Jason Bang
Sermon	John McGiffin	John McGiffin	John McGiffin
Closing Prayer/Usher Right	Tim Bang		Seth Arrell

**This week's Bible Verse**

“Every word of God is pure, He is a shield to those who put their trust in Him.” Proverbs 30:5



**Lord's Supper Reflection**

*To Become the Place Where We Meet God*

“So the Jews answered and said to Him, “What sign do You show to us, since You do these things?” Jesus answered and said to them, “Destroy this temple, and in three days I will raise it up.” Then the Jews said, “It has taken forty-six years to build this temple, and will You raise it up in three days?” But He was speaking of the temple of His body.” John 2:18-21

**Offering Meditation**

*Your Gift to God Ascribes Glory to the Lord*

“Give to the LORD, O families of the peoples, Give to the LORD glory and strength. Give to the LORD the glory *due* His name; Bring an offering, and come into His courts. Oh, worship the LORD in the beauty of holiness! Tremble before Him, all the earth.” Psalms 96:7-9



**Remember in Prayer:**

- \*Our Country & leaders
- \*Phyllis Caldwell - encouragement
- \*Rena Morgan - Shut in, health
- \*Ernst & Helen Sherrill (Bro/Sis in Christ from TN) - shut ins with ongoing health issues
- \*Larry Bey - Parkinson's
- \*Orville Thompson (Jerry Thompson's dad) - health
- \*Sally Westover (Carrie Thompson's mom) - health, comfort, strength for the family/caregivers
- \*Maxine Jones (Laura McGiffin's mom) - having issues with her vision and dementia
- \*Debby Braefield (Alena Brown's Aunt) - health
- \*Caroline Stine - health
- \*Tim Bang - health/tests

- \*Norma Murphy (Dustin Desarro's aunt) - is recovering from a fall
- \*The Thompson's and Whittington's are travelling
- \*Carter Buckingham - still trying to figure out what the pain he's having is caused by
- \*Carla Patrick - looking for a job as she relocate to our area
- \*Pam Illnick (Amie Allen's mom) - struggling with her health and faith

**How can we be praying for YOU?**

Please call or email John (jmcgiffin.yayo@gmail.com) with any prayer requests or announcements you have for the congregation.



**Attendance and Contribution Record**

Sunday, May 28		Wednesday, May 31	
Bible Classes	32	Bible Classes	28
AM Attendance	45		
PM Attendance	19	Contribution	\$2,037.71

# Welcome to the Greenville Church of Christ



**June 4, 2023**

**Worship Times:**

- Sunday Morning Bible class: 9:30am
- Sunday Morning Worship: 10:30am
- Sunday Evening Worship: 6:00pm
- Wednesday Evening Bible Study: 7:00pm

**Minister, John McGiffin**

4599 Children's Home Bradford Rd  
Greenville, OH 45331

[www.greenvillecoc.org](http://www.greenvillecoc.org)

We are blessed that you have chosen to worship with us today! If you are visiting, we would love to have you back with us again. Please take a moment to fill out a visitor's card and let us get to know you.