

MARY DID YOU KNOW?

A CHRISTMAS MESSAGE



“Mary Did You Know?”

LYRICS BY MARK LOWRY

*Mary, did you know
that your Baby Boy would one day walk on water?
Mary, did you know
that your Baby Boy would save our sons and daughters?
Did you know
that your Baby Boy has come to make you new?
This Child that you delivered will soon deliver you.*

*Mary, did you know
that your Baby Boy will give sight to a blind man?
Mary, did you know
that your Baby Boy will calm the storm with His hand?
Did you know
that your Baby Boy has walked where angels trod?
When you kiss your little Baby you kissed the face of God?*

This Christmas song, made popular by artist, Amy Grant, is one of my favorites. The song asks the intriguing question as to whether or not Mary was aware of the full reality of the One within her womb. How much did she know about the One she bore--the One she would hold?

As a mother, the song’s images always move me. The Gospel of Luke records, Mary is a young, devout Jewish girl living in Nazareth. She is a virgin who humbly receives the news from the angel of the Lord that she has been chosen and that she will bear the Son of God.

Although Mary is clearly baffled about how this could possibly happen, her response is immediate, **“I am the Lord’s servant. May it be to me as you have said.”** Mary did not know how this could happen, and she certainly could not grasp the eternal impact the birth of her son would have.

But, it’s not what Mary knew, it’s what she did. She bowed before the Lord, surrendering her will to His and responded: **“I am the Lord’s servant. May it be to me as you have said.”** Mary did not know the future and it did not matter. She knew God Almighty, and she trusted her life to Him.


Like Mary, what matters most for each of us is that we respond to God’s call in our lives with a humble heart and a willing spirit.

Like Mary, we don’t know the ultimate outcome or impact of our lives, but we are called to be obedient to what we do know, the words of Christ, **“My command is this: Love each other as I have loved you. Greater love has no one than this, that one lay down his life for his friends.”** (John 15:12)

Like Mary, what matters most is not how much we know but how much we love. I am reminded of my father’s words of encouragement, “You are doing more good than you know.” That is a statement of faith. We trust that each day we choose to love rather than

hate, to give rather than hoard, to accept rather than judge, to forgive rather than hold a grudge, we are shining Christ's light in our dark world.

May the story of Mary's humble courage--surrendered to the will of God--inspire us all through this season.



Sara Young Jackson
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