

## Message from God's Life-Giving Word

August 23, 2020

### Letting Go of Control

*And Mary said, "Behold the servant of the Lord! **Let it be** to me according to your word."*

Luke 1:38

\* You don't always have the power to **control**, but you always have the power to **surrender**.

*Whoever finds their life will lose it, and whoever loses their life for my sake will find it.*

Matthew 10:39

What or who are you trying to control that you need to surrender?

\* When we \_\_\_\_\_ our ability to control, we \_\_\_\_\_ the power of God

*For whoever wants to save their life will lose it, but whoever loses their life for Me will find it.*

Matthew 16:25

### Next Steps

1. Journal the following: Guess how you would respond if you were Mary or Joseph in their situation in Luke 1:26-38? If total trust is a 0, and total control is a 10, where do you land on the control scale? What do you think motivates our desire for control?
2. Read Matthew 16:24-26. What are you trying to control that is outside your control? When is the last time you surrendered control and trusted God with something you cared deeply about? What happened? What would you have to do to give up control and trust God with the specific things you are trying to control?
3. Write down the areas where you need to intentionally surrendering control to God: past, relationships, school, finances, future, job, health, kids? Now spend some time praying for your life to be according to God's will and His will alone.  
**REMEMBER:** *Your time in daily devotion and prayer is not just for your benefit. It is also for the benefit of others. Share what God is teaching you.*