

BEST CHRISTMAS EVER

CHOOSE GRATITUDE

12.01.19

MARY'S MAGNIFICAT

⁴⁶“Oh, how my soul praises the Lord. ⁴⁷How my spirit rejoices in God my Savior! ⁴⁸For he took notice of his lowly servant girl, and from now on all generations will call me blessed. ⁴⁹For the Mighty One is holy, and he has done great things for me. ⁵⁰He shows mercy from generation to generation to all who fear him. ⁵¹His mighty arm has done tremendous things! He has scattered the proud and haughty ones. ⁵²He has brought down princes from their thrones and exalted the humble. ⁵³He has filled the hungry with good things and sent the rich away with empty hands. ⁵⁴He has helped his servant Israel and remembered to be merciful. ⁵⁵For he made this promise to our ancestors, to Abraham and his children forever.” Luke 1:46-55

CHOOSE GRATITUDE

- Your Attitude is Your _____
- The attitude you choose determines _____ you become, _____ you do, and _____ you get along with others

“Always be joyful. Never stop praying. Be thankful in all circumstances, for this is God’s will for you who belong to Christ Jesus.” 1 Thessalonians 5:16-18

1. Mary expresses her _____ at knowing God
“I will praise God’s name with singing, and I will honor him with thanksgiving.” Psalm 69:30
“Give thanks to the LORD, for he is good! His faithful love endures forever.” Psalm 118:1
“Joy is not getting what you want; it’s appreciating what you have.” Mark Batterson
2. Mary expresses her _____ in knowing God’s character
“Don’t worry about anything; instead, pray about everything. Tell God what you need, and thank him for all he has done. Then you will experience God’s peace, which exceeds anything we can understand.” Philippians 4:6-7

“Even though the fig trees have no blossoms, and there are no grapes on the vines; even though the olive crop fails, and the fields lie empty and barren; even though the flocks die in the fields, and the cattle barns are empty, yet I will rejoice in the LORD! I will be joyful in the God of my salvation!” Habakkuk 3:17-18

“Gratitude is a fruit of great cultivation.” Samuel Johnson

“The one thing I ask of the LORD—the thing I seek most—is to live in the house of the LORD all the days of my life, delighting in the LORD’s perfections and meditating in his Temple.” Psalm 27:4

“Joy is not changing your circumstances; it is changing your focus.” Mark Batterson

3. Mary expresses her _____ by recounting God’s blessings

“It is good to give thanks to the LORD, to sing praises to the Most High.” Psalm 92:1

“Think about things that are excellent and worthy of praise.” Philippians 4:8

“Whatever you do or say, do it as a representative of the Lord Jesus, giving thanks through him to God the Father.” Colossians 3:17

“When it comes to life the critical thing is whether you take things for granted or take them with gratitude.” G.K. Chesterton*

“I would maintain that thanks are the highest form of thought; and that gratitude is happiness doubled by wonder.” G.K. Chesterton*

“Gratitude is a choice. If we fail to choose it, by default we choose ingratitude.” Nancy Leigh DeMoss

“I have learned that in every circumstance that comes my way, I can choose to respond in one of two ways: I can whine or I can worship! And I can’t worship without giving thanks. It just isn’t possible. When we choose the pathway of worship and giving thanks, especially in the midst of difficult circumstances, there is a fragrance, a radiance, that issues forth out of our lives to bless the Lord and others.” Nancy Leigh DeMoss