

WHEN A SETBACK FILLS YOU WITH FEAR – LK 1:26-34

SERIES: HOW GOD TURNS SETBACKS INTO COMEBACKS – PART 8

²⁹ Mary was greatly troubled at his words and wondered what kind of greeting this might be. ³⁰ But the angel said to her, "Do not be afraid, Mary, you have found favor with God. *Luke 1:29-30 (NIV)*

FOUR TRUTHS ABOUT SETBACKS TO REMEMBER:

1. THERE ARE NO _____ WITHOUT _____
2. EVERY SETBACK IS A _____ FOR A COMEBACK
3. A SETBACK IS NOT INTENDED TO _____ ME BUT TO _____ ME FOR MY NEXT STAGE OF RESPONSIBILITY.
4. SETBACKS ARE _____ TO WHERE GOD WANTS ME TO BE.

COMMON FEARS ASSOCIATED WITH JESUS' BIRTH:

1. MARY FACED THE FEAR OF _____.

²⁹ Mary was greatly troubled at his words and wondered what kind of greeting this might be. ³⁰ But the angel said to her, "Do not be afraid, Mary, you have found favor with God. ³¹ You will be with child and give birth to a son, and you are to give him the name Jesus. ³² He will be great and will be called the Son of the Most High. The Lord God will give him the throne of his father David, ³³ and he will reign over the house of Jacob forever; his kingdom will never end." ³⁴ "How will this be," Mary asked the angel, "since I am a virgin?" *Luke 1:29-34 (NIV)*

2. JOSEPH FACED THE FEAR OF _____.

¹⁸ This is how the birth of Jesus Christ came about: His mother Mary was pledged to be married to Joseph, but before they came together, she was found to be with child through the Holy Spirit. ¹⁹ Because Joseph her husband was a righteous man and did not want to expose her to public disgrace, he had in mind to divorce her quietly. ²⁰ But after he had considered this, an angel of the Lord appeared to him in a dream and said, "Joseph son of David, do not be afraid to take Mary home as your wife, because what is conceived in her is from the Holy Spirit. *Matthew 1:18-20 (NIV)*

3. THE SHEPHERDS FACED THE FEAR OF UNEXPECTED _____.

⁸ And there were shepherds living out in the fields nearby, keeping watch over their flocks at night. ⁹ An angel of the Lord appeared to them, and the glory of the Lord shone around them, and they were terrified. ¹⁰ But the angel said to them, "Do not be afraid. I bring you good news of great joy that will be for all the people. *Luke 2:8-10 (NIV)*

4. KING HEROD ANTIPAS FACED THE FEAR OF _____.

¹ After Jesus was born in Bethlehem in Judea, during the time of King Herod, Magi from the east came to Jerusalem ² and asked, "Where is the one who has been born king of

the Jews? We saw his star in the east and have come to worship him." ³ When King Herod heard this he was disturbed, and all Jerusalem with him. *Matthew 2:1-3 (NIV)*

5. ZECHARIAH FACED THE FEAR OF BEING _____ (AGAIN).

¹¹ Then an angel of the Lord appeared to him, standing at the right side of the altar of incense. ¹² When Zechariah saw him, he was startled and was gripped with fear. ¹³ But the angel said to him: "Do not be afraid, Zechariah; your prayer has been heard. Your wife Elizabeth will bear you a son, and you are to give him the name John. *Luke 1:11-13 (NIV)*

HOW CAN I REPLACE MY FEARS WITH FAITH?

1. _____ MY LIFE COMPLETELY TO GOD _____.

³⁸ "I am the Lord's servant," Mary answered. "May it be to me as you have said." Then the angel left her. *Luke 1:38 (NIV)*

¹³ Put your heart right, Job. Reach out to God. ¹⁴ Put away evil and wrong from your home. ¹⁵ Then face the world again, firm and courageous. ¹⁶ Then all your troubles will fade from your memory, like floods that are past and remembered no more. ¹⁷ Your life will be brighter than sunshine at noon, and life's darkest hours will shine like the dawn.

¹⁸ You will live secure and full of hope; God will protect you and give you rest.

Job 11:13-18 (TEV)

2. STOP _____ TO THE VOICES OF _____ AROUND ME.

²³ But the man who has doubts is condemned if he eats, because his eating is not from faith; and everything that does not come from faith is sin. *Romans 14:23 (NIV)*

⁶ And without faith it is impossible to please God, because anyone who comes to him must believe that he exists and that he rewards those who earnestly seek him.

Hebrews 11:6 (NIV)

3. FILL MY MIND WITH _____ THAT PRAISES GOD.

⁴⁶ And Mary said: "My soul glorifies the Lord ⁴⁷ and my spirit rejoices in God my Savior, ⁴⁸ for he has been mindful of the humble state of his servant. From now on all generations will call me blessed, ⁴⁹ for the Mighty One has done great things for me-- holy is his name.

⁵⁰ His mercy extends to those who fear him, from generation to generation.

Luke 1:46-50 (NIV)

¹⁹ Speak to one another with psalms, hymns and spiritual songs. Sing and make music in your heart to the Lord, ²⁰ always giving thanks to God the Father for everything, in the name of our Lord Jesus Christ. *Ephesians 5:19-20 (NIV)*

4. BASE MY HOPE ON THE _____ OF GOD.

⁴⁵ You are blessed because you believed that the Lord would do what he said."

Luke 1:45 (NLT2)