

## Nothing Will Be Impossible

Luke 1:26-38

Richard C. Allen

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South Glastonbury

Connecticut

**“Nothing will be impossible with God.”** These words must have been spoken either by an angel or a child. An angel might speak them because angels know that when God gets God’s hands on something, anything can happen. For example, a man whose life is out of control can find sobriety. A woman who sees no purpose in going on with life can find purpose and direction and meaning. A youth who is terrified at the thought of asking that certain special some one for a date can overcome that fear. A child who is told she can not sing can overcome that judgment and discover the voice of the nightingale that lives inside her. Angels know that when God sets things in motion, there’s no turning back and nothing will be impossible.

A child might speak these words, ‘Nothing will be impossible,’ because children have not yet been jaded by the Age of Reason or by the cynicism of adults or by the limited vision of tradition. A child might speak these words out of innocence or naïveté. A child is like an artist who sees a gorgeous sunset and assumes she can capture it all on canvass. A child is like a poet who falls in love and knows there is a way to capture that feeling in iambic pentameter. It’s why Jesus told us that unless we turn and become like children we’d never enter the Kingdom of God.

Whether it’s an angel speaking or a child, the message of Christmas is the same: **nothing will be impossible with God.**

I am neither an angel nor a child. I just happen to be foolish enough to believe what the angel Gabriele says to Mary: **nothing will be impossible with God.**

In one of his letters, the Apostle Paul tells the early Christians to go ahead and be foolish, be fools for Christ; go ahead and believe that nothing will be impossible. Take on each day with that attitude! So, that's what I try to do. And that's what I try to preach. Mary, in the Christmas story, was the original fool. She actually believed that God could work a miracle through her. I am guessing that if she hadn't believed it, God would have sought out another maiden to fulfill the divine purpose.

As Christmas approaches I am asking each of you to believe that God can use you to work a miracle; a miracle of peace, a miracle of reconciliation, a miracle of hope. I am asking every man, woman, youth, and child to believe God can work a miracle through you! Every once in awhile I get criticized for this or that. What I really like is being criticized for being such a fool. It's a grand affirmation!

Millard Fuller was that kind of fool. He actually believed we could end sub-standard housing in the whole world. God worked a miracle through him. It's called Habitat for Humanity.

Dame Cicely Saunders actually believed it is possible for a human being to die with dignity in a surrounding of love and respect. God worked a miracle through her. It's called Hospice.

Diverson Chikatiko actually believed it is possible to chase hunger from his village in rural Malawi. God worked a miracle through him. It is called Ndevu Village Hunger Project.

Anna Wieselberg and her friends actually believed they could raise \$50,000 to buy a shell for the high school girl's crew team and contribute mightily toward a cure for breast cancer. God worked a miracle through her. I call it the Pink Boat project!

According to Luke, the angel Gabriel visited Mary with a Christmas greeting and a promise: **Nothing will be impossible with God.**

According to my humble observations, the angel Gabriel is still at it, working overtime, still inspiring the hearts of people of faith everywhere with that profoundly foolish truth: **Nothing will be impossible with God.** This I believe with all my heart. I invite you to do the same. In the greatest of hope, Amen.