

# DAY 10

WEDNESDAY,  
FEBRUARY 8

*"The prayer of Relinquishment is a bona fide letting go, but it is a release with hope. We have no fatalistic resignation. We are buoyed by a confident trust in the character of God." —Richard Foster*

**"Mary said, 'Behold, I am the servant of the Lord; let it be to me according to your word.'"  
Luke 1:38**

## TODAY'S DEVOTIONAL:

Young Mary's life has just been interrupted by an angelic messenger from God. She is chosen to participate in God's redemptive work on earth. She is a recipient of divine favor. She is invited to follow. To change directions. To surrender what she thought her life would look like in favor of trusting the words of a God she cannot see.

She asks a single question; then, her answer is yes. This yes would cost her. It would cost her reputation and sense of security. Her status as a 'normal' girl. She says yes anyway.

Yes to messy. Yes to being misunderstood. Yes to heartbreak. Yes to pain. But also, Yes to playing a vital part in the eternal rescue of souls. Yes to watching her son walk in perfect communion with his heavenly father. Yes to faith in a life to come, life beyond her current reality. Yes to nurturing the Messiah. Yes to faithfulness. Yes to generations inspired by her faith and obedience.

The way of following Jesus is the way of trust. It is the willing subjection of the self to death. Death to the will and death to self at the center.

It is wide open hands and lips that say, like Mary, "Let it be to me according to your word."

The road toward the movement of God's Spirit is paved with the surrender of the saints. Not our will, but His. Not our kingdom, but His. Not our ways, but HIS. When we truly encounter the reality of who God is, yes is the only response that makes sense. Anything He would ask of us is worth it. Because He has proved He is trustworthy. He has proved His love.

When we come to God in prayer, asking Him to move, to awaken, to revive, we are acknowledging that WE cannot accomplish any of this. We are in need. We are dependent. Surrender and trust is the way of prayer. He knows the way, we do not. And so we relinquish the desire for control. We let go of the need to get our way. We tune our hearts to His. Prayer IS surrender. Prayer is turning aside from attending to our business, our tasks, our responsibilities, and directing our gaze to the One who sees and knows. The One who can actually change things.

Let it be to me according to Your word. Let it be to Your church according to Your word. Let it be to Houston according to Your word.

## TODAY'S PRAYER FOR GOD'S PEOPLE:

Father, thank you that You are absolutely trustworthy. Thank you that we can freely open our hands and trust you with our lives, our work, our souls. Please make clear the areas where we are trusting in anything other than You; maybe it's ourselves or money or status or connections. Please empower us to trust you fully. Please give us ears to hear Your words and faith to obey what You ask. Tune our hearts to Yours. Make our desires match Your desires. In Jesus' name. Amen.

## TODAY'S PRAYER FOR THE PEOPLE ON YOUR LIST:

Father, awaken souls to the reality of Your lordship and trustworthiness. Help us see who you are and respond with our whole hearts, YES. Please take away any deception or spiritual blindness and help us see that your way is best.

RELINQUISH



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