

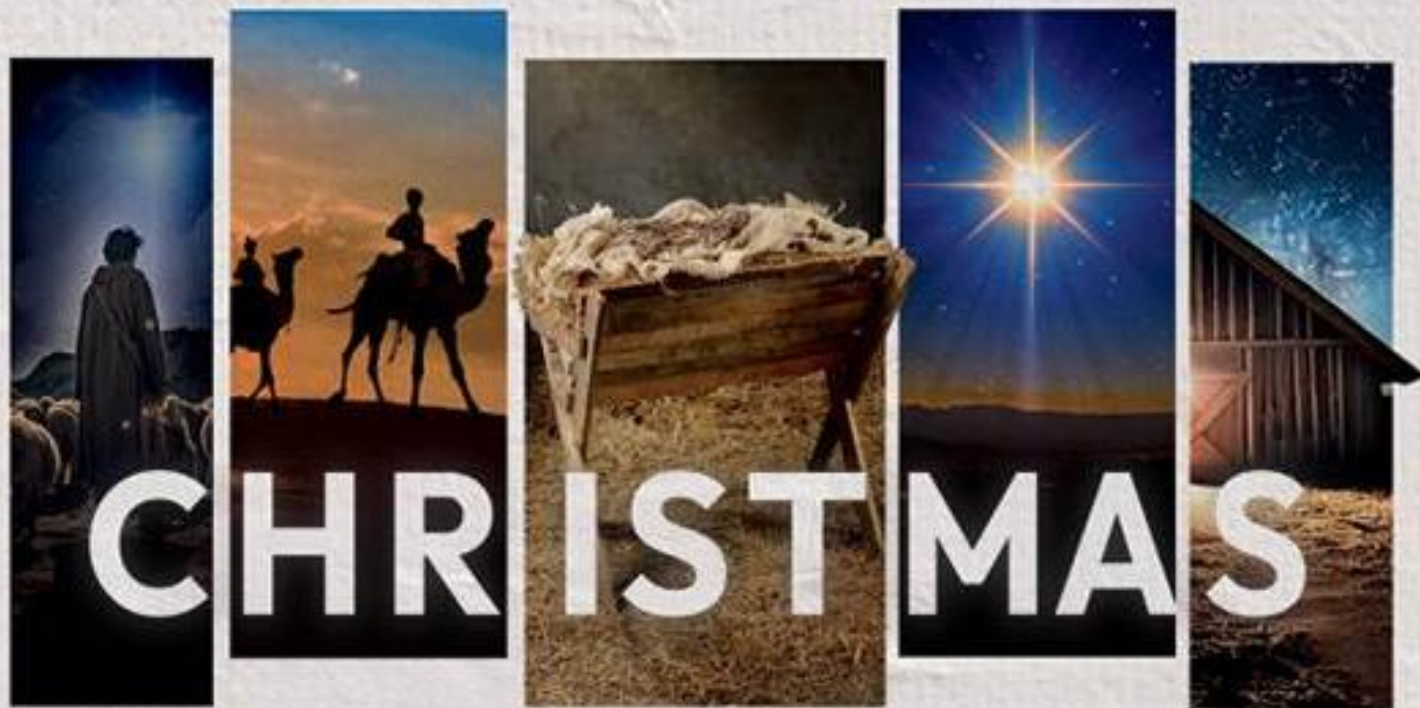


Christmas: The Whole Story
Part 2
“The Courage of Yes”

Associate Pastor Scott Sweetland

December 7, 2025

New Hampton Community Church



THE WHOLE STORY

CHRISTMAS SERVICES

In-Person or online - Sundays 10 AM

CANDLELIGHT SERVICE

DEC. 24 • 7:30PM

What is Courage?

Webster's defines it as "mental or moral strength to venture, persevere, and withstand danger, fear, or difficulty"



Luke 1:26-33

In the sixth month, God sent the angel Gabriel to Nazareth, a town in Galilee, ²⁷ to a virgin pledged to be married to a man named Joseph, a descendant of David. The virgin's name was Mary. ²⁸ The angel went to her and said, "Greetings, you who are highly favored! The Lord is with you." ²⁹ Mary was greatly troubled at his words and wondered what kind of greeting this might be.

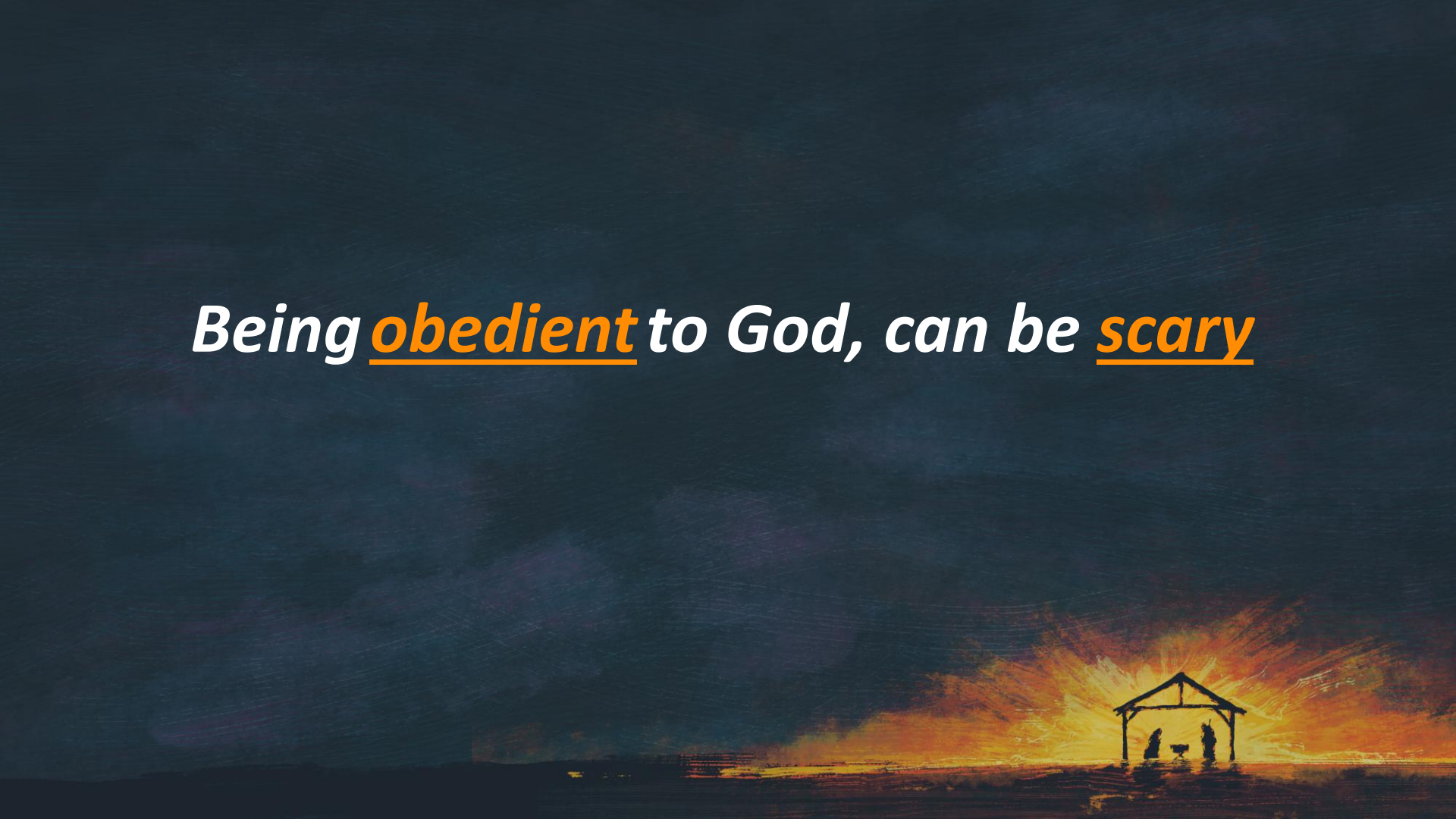


Luke 1:26-33 cont.

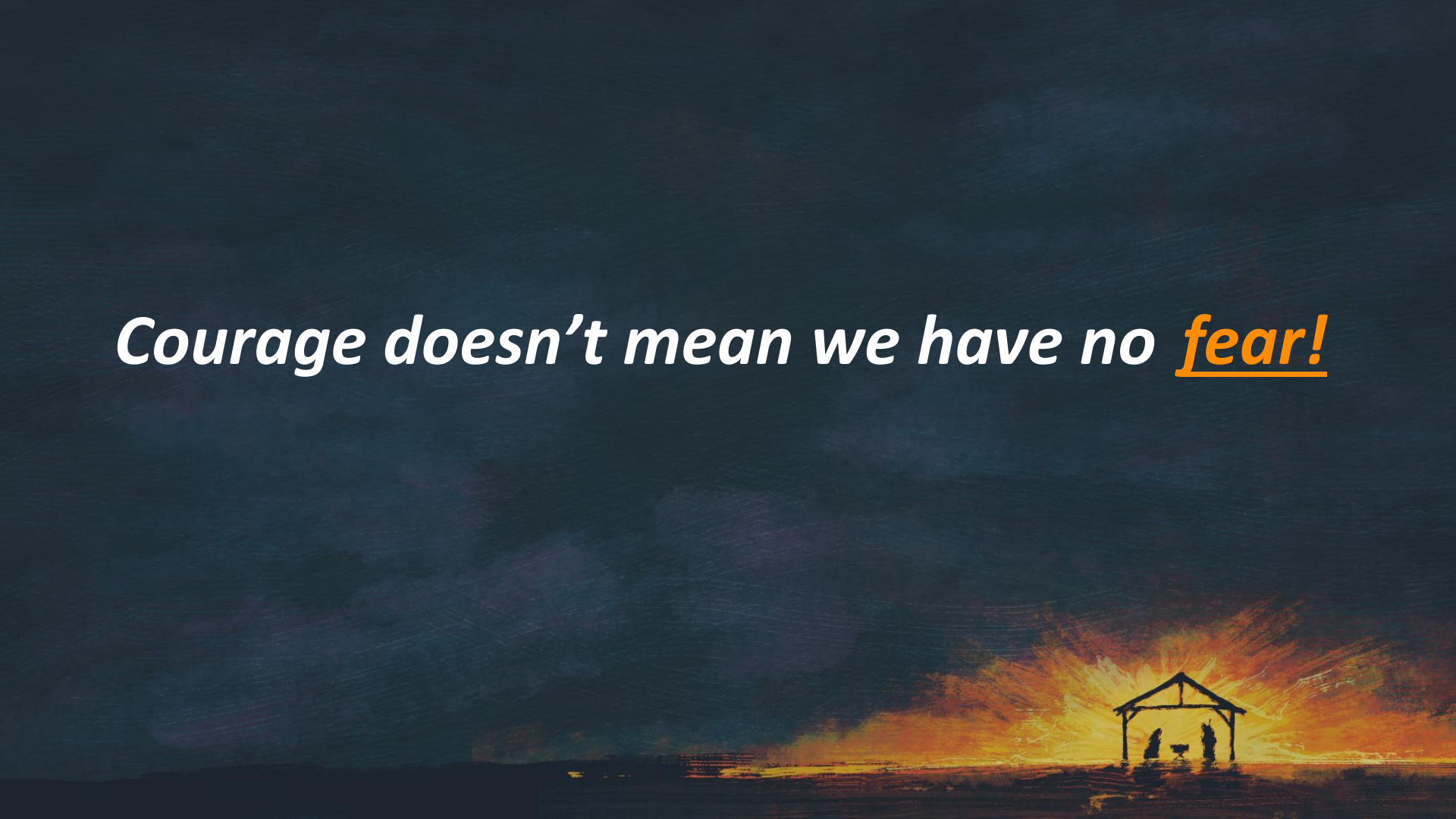
³⁰ But the angel said to her, “Do not be afraid, Mary, you have found favor with God. ³¹ You will be with child and give birth to a son, and you are to give him the name Jesus. ³² He will be great and will be called the Son of the Most High. The Lord God will give him the throne of his father David, ³³ and he will reign over the house of Jacob forever; his kingdom will never end.”



Being obedient to God, can be scary



Courage doesn't mean we have no fear!



Luke 1:34-38

³⁴ How will this be,” Mary asked the angel, “since I am a virgin?” ³⁵ The angel answered, “The Holy Spirit will come upon you, and the power of the Most High will overshadow you. So the holy one to be born will be called the Son of God.



Luke 1:34-38 cont.

³⁶ Even Elizabeth your relative is going to have a child in her old age, and she who was said to be barren is in her sixth month. ³⁷ For nothing is impossible with God.” ³⁸ “I am the Lord’s servant,” Mary answered. “May it be to me as you have said.” Then the angel left her.



*Being obedient to God, will lead to
great achievements*

*“Small disciplines repeated with consistency
everyday lead to great achievements gained
slowly over time.” - John Maxwell*



Matthew 1:18-25

“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.



Matthew 1:18-25

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. ²¹ She will give birth to a son, and you are to give him the name Jesus, because he will save his people from their sins.”



Matthew 1:18-25

²² All this took place to fulfill what the Lord had said through the prophet: ²³ “The virgin will be with child and will give birth to a son, and they will call him Immanuel”—which means, “God with us.” ²⁴ When Joseph woke up, he did what the angel of the Lord had commanded him and took Mary home as his wife. ²⁵ But he had no union with her until she gave birth to a son. And he gave him the name Jesus.



*Being Obedient to God, unlocks amazing
blessings*



Romans 12:1

“Therefore, I urge you, brothers, in view of God’s mercy, to offer your bodies as living sacrifices, holy and pleasing to God—this is your spiritual act of worship.”



What is God asking you to say yes to this week?

- Forgiving someone you need to forgive?
- Making yourself available for service?
- Inviting a person to join you for worship?
- Asking someone if they know Jesus?
- To pray more or to pray specifically for someone?
- To be more bold in your faith?
- Surrendering yourself to Jesus?

