



Wednesday Prayer

4th Sunday of Advent – You want me to *WHAT?*

*[After the angel Gabriel appears to Mary with the news she will bear a son, the baby Jesus...]
Then Mary said, “Here am I, the servant of the Lord; let it be with me according to your word.” Luke 1:38*

(God) has performed mighty deeds with His arm; He has scattered those who are proud in their inmost thoughts. Luke 1:51

A while back, I tried to start a Cherish All Children chapter at my church. We had a “Talents Fair” and I set up my little table with information about the Cherish All Children ministry, plus some information from our Washington County Attorney’s Office. (Our county is no stranger to sex trafficking.) The *only* conversation I had was with two men, one of whom said to me, “I just don’t think I could do this kind of work.”

As I was reading this week’s Scripture, it struck me that (a) Mary did not say to God, “I don’t think I can do this kind of work,” and (b) God wasn’t asking her to save the world, only to bear the Child who *would* save the world. And the same is true of the work Cherish All Children is doing. The good people who have stood up and said, “Count me in,” are not being asked to kick in the door of a house in their neighborhood where children are being trafficked. Cherish All Children is asking us to *learn* about sexual exploitation and trafficking and to *be ready* to explain to those willing to listen why we must, as a society, stop the use of force, deceit, or coercion to lure people into commercial sex acts. We are being asked to make changes in our society for the protection of children. “But,” you say, “nobody wants to talk about this!” But that doesn’t mean we *shouldn’t* talk about it!

As a Christian, ask yourself where we would all be if Mary had said, “Huh uh, God, I don’t want any part of this crazy plan of Yours!” But Mary said, “Yes!” Mary’s Song (Luke 1:46-55) speaks of the mighty power of God to “do great things for (her)” and for all humankind. Perhaps our small role in helping educate others about something as reprehensible as sex trafficking will open the way for *God* to work through us and others to persuade legislators, law enforcement, and other powerful people to come to the table, listen, and take action.

Holy is Your Name, Lord! Help us spread the word to keep children and youth safe from sexual exploitation and trafficking so Your mighty power may work through us. Amen.

Written by Meg Blaine Corrigan, Christian author, speaker, trainer, and sexual assault survivor. Read more about Meg [HERE](#), and find links to her memoir, *Then I Am Strong: Moving From My Mother’s Daughter to God’s Child*, and *Saints With Slingshots TWO*, just released in time for Christmas and a New Year of reading.