



Colossians 3:1-4

Mary immediately and comprehensively interprets her circumstances **biblically**. Her thinking is defined by the Bible.

- Everything in her mind was shaped by the truth, by the concerns, by the interests, by the manner of **God's Word** because she had taken that Word into her heart.
- The prerequisite of this characteristic is that we **consume** the Bible like she did. We too should be so consumed with the Bible that we speak **biblically**.

Mary saw everything – including her own amazing experience – in terms of God's love for His **Church**, His people, and His commitment to their salvation.

- In the majority of her response, her own personal situation and even blessing is forgotten and what occupies her mind is the significance of what she has been told for the **people of God**.
- By the grace of God and a growing mastery of His Word, nothing should bring us the greatest joy and happiness that does not in some way **advance** the interest and glory of the **Kingdom** of God in our world.

The **greatness** of God colors or affects all of Mary's thinking about **herself**.

- Mary was small – low – in her own eyes not primarily because of how clearly she saw her **sinfulness**...but because of her exceedingly high view of **God**.
- We too should always see the **majesty** of God behind what happens in life and in the world – to see and **trust** His power, wisdom, goodness, and above all, His mercy.

What Jesus wants us to **see** in Mary is what Jesus wants us to **want** in ourselves: the same God-ward mind and devotion that Mary had.

God wants the Word of God to **shape** all our thinking, speaking, responses, singing, decisions, and hopes. Is that true of you?

That's what **Learn Truth** as one of the steps to life in Christ is all about.

God wants a church and Kingdom-mindedness to largely **define** our perspective on life. Is that true of you?

That's what **Build Community** as one of the steps to life in Christ is all about.

God wants us to have a sense of the greatness of God so much so that our **view** of ourselves is in light of our view of Him. Is that true of you?

That's what **Worship Jesus** as one of the steps of life in Christ is all about.

Mary's example of **God-ward** thinking and living reminds you that when you too Worship Jesus, Learn Truth, and Build Community, you, like Mary, cannot help but be used by God to **Reach Your World**.