



Dear Friends,

“And Mary said,

***‘My soul magnifies the Lord,
and my spirit rejoices in God my Saviour...’.*** Luke 1:46-47

Upon her arrival at cousin Elizabeth’s house, Mary the mother of our Lord, sings with joy, stating that her soul will magnify the Lord. We reflected on this idea of our soul *magnifying the Lord* and what it may mean for our faith, day in and day out.

If you're like me, I often initially magnify the worst case scenarios in the trials and difficulties I face. This type of magnification replaces hope with anxiety. But taking a faith lesson from Mary, we see how she hopes against all the odds and dares to believe that God is present with her. The result is that the light of Christ shines through her, she magnifies the Lord in her soul.

This is my prayer for you this week, that you too can hope against hope (Romans 4:18) in whatever you face and begin, as Mary did, to magnify the Lord in your soul.

In Christmas Hope,

Pastor John

Rev. Dr. John McKeague
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