



Lesson 2

December 13, 2020

Called to Participate in a Promise

God used Mary for an amazing purpose. Mary's purpose was to participate in the promise of the birth of the Savior, an event greater and bigger than herself. In our contemporary story, Greg learned the meaning of participating in something greater than himself.

At 32, Greg returned to school to reinvent himself after the factory where he worked relocated his division overseas. Greg was happy to be in his last semester of his master's degree program. His university offered minority internship opportunities at top partner companies. Greg was assigned to an intern position on the marketing team of a seventy-five-year-old company whose motto was a promise to "deliver." Then the pandemic hit. Sales dropped drastically, the company furloughed its employees, and the company closed many of its stores. Greg began to wonder why God placed him at this company.

In a strategy meeting, the CEO asked for suggestions on how to market the company during the pandemic. Suggestions included continuation of the quarterly newsletters, cold emails to prospective customers, and brochures placed in magazine racks at supermarket exits. Greg, the youngest at the table, shared an aggressive marketing strategy that involved increasing their online presence to boost sales and business. Greg built an ingenious marketing strategy that was well-organized and executed online. With the visually appealing Web site, the company began connecting with new and existing customers in a whole new way. The company survived potential bankruptcy!

Employees were not only called back to work, but because of Greg's marketing virtuosity, the company needed to hire additional employees to respond to the demand. This was more than Greg could have ever imagined. Successful in reinventing the company, he was offered a position as president of marketing, and became the youngest and the first Afro-Latino American president in the seventy-five-year-old history of this company. Greg realized that God assigned him to this company to participate in the company's seventy-five-year-old promise, something that was far bigger and greater than Greg.

Discussion Questions:

1. Discuss why every assignment from God is major.
2. Discuss a time you missed an opportunity to participate in a promise from God.
3. How would you encourage others to see that God will call us to participate in His plan but that we must be willing to listen and obey?