"And behold, you will conceive in your womb and bring forth a Son"



Luke 1:31

Handling "the news" & knowing about yourself



"The news" is a call to service (1)

- St. Mary visiting and serving Elizabeth
- Asking the Lord to
 ease the
 embarrassment at the
 Wedding of Cana



"The news" is a call to service (2)

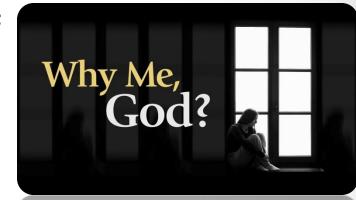
- Nehemiah doing the same upon hearing the news coming from Jerusalem
- The Church of Antioch helping the one in
 Jerusalem Acts 11:27-30



"The news" and "why me?"

 Between the temptation of pride (Israel) and the grumbling against the task ("O my Lord, please send by the hand of whomever else You may send."

-- Exodus 4:13), many fall away



"The news" and "how is God with me?"

 The reaction to the news by Gideon:

"O my lord, if the LORD is with us, why then has all this happened to us?"

Judges 6:13



"The news" and "what about...?"

- These are the questions about convenience and conditions
- A true servant is only mindful of his/her duties and obligations



"The news" of the defeat at Ai was a call for self-examination for Joshua

 "Then Joshua tore his clothes, and fell to the earth on his face before the ark of the LORD until evening, he and the elders of Israel; and they put dust on their heads" Joshua 7:6



- "The news" for Moses about Pharaoh chasing after the people of Israel was another occasion to experience God's power
- "And Moses said to the people, 'Do not be afraid. Stand still, and see the salvation of the LORD, which He will accomplish for you today'" Exodus 14:13



"The news" about the persecution triggered against the Early Church led the disciples to pray always and proclaim the message all the more boldly

"So when they heard that, they raised their voice to God with one accord and said"



Acts 4:24