# Advent 2017 Annunciation Luke 1:26-38

# God is in charge

## Advent: Looking at God’s plan of for the world

## Looking at how to respond when God comes knocking on your door

### Called ‘The day of visitation’ in some parts of the Bible

### You don’t always want it but you wouldn’t be without it

# You’re part of a plan

## God is already bringing it together

### The same angel went to Zechariah in the Temple and said ‘Your wife, Elizabeth, is going to have a son in her old age’ six months beforehand

## Mary was invited to be in the middle of it all

# God disturbs

## His intention was good

### She reacted with fear

### He responded with reassurance

#### Not, ‘you’re perfect’, but ‘you’ve found favour’

# God invites

## He invited Mary

### He told her what she needed to know

#### It will be worth it

## She made an informed choice

# God is not a coercive God

## He invites you

### On a similar journey with God

### You are given a choice

## He won’t coerce you

# God deals with the impossible

## You can see the problems

### For Mary it was the mechanics of how it will all happen

## He can see the end from the beginning

### He sees you as you will be

# Homegroup/Private study questions

# Dealing with plans

## How do you respond to someone who has a plan and invites you to be part of it?

### What encourages you to join the plan?

### What holds you back from being part of it?

# God has a plan

## How do Christians hold the idea of God having a plan with that of God giving each of us free will?

## How do you respond to God having a plan for your life?

### If you make a mistake or choose wrongly is the plan changed?

### How can God hold each of us accountable when He is working to a plan that includes every mistake we make?

# God visiting you

## What emotions do you have when you think that God might disturb you?

### What, if anything, has God announced to you?

#### How has this affected the choices you have made?

#### How has it affected the way you have lived?

# The God who invites

## If God is sovereign how can Christians hold that God invites us (through Christ) yet will not coerce us?

# God’s plan

## Christians hold that Jesus came and will return

### What is actually known of the return of Christ and where do we find it? (Try Mk 13:32; Mt 24:4,5,27; Rev 1:7; Lk 21:34-36; Act 1:9-11; 1 Thess 4:16,17; 1Cor 15:52,53

#### What interpretation do you put on the signs of His return? (Mt 24:3ff)

##### Why should you hold onto your interpretation lightly?