

- **A.D. 1 – Mary “shows up” and answers the call of God!**
- **A.D. 2013 – Will we “show up” and serve when God calls?**



Showing Up for Christmas by Kathleen McElwaine

<http://fineartamerica.com/featured/showing-up-for-christmas-kathleen-mcelwaine.html>

### **Our crisis/blessing ...**

A crisis is sometimes (maybe often) how God packages our blessing. He gives us an opportunity to serve him, to trust him for direction and strength for the journey. This is what we have seen from Joseph and Mary. The impending crisis and their accompanying fears were met with faith as loyal subjects of the King. This “formula” results in only one thing. Tremendous joy and the mind-bending blessing of service rendered in the Name of our God. Our lesson? Obey in the midst of the crisis. Serve faithfully. We may not see God at that moment, but we will see him.

### **Mary receives and exults in her calling ...**

- 1) Mary is blessed by God, 1:26-33.
- 2) Mary embraces her calling, 1:34-38.
- 3) Elizabeth affirms the blessing of Gabriel and blesses Mary for her belief, 1:39-45.
- 4) Mary exults in her blessing, 1:46-55.

CONCLUSION: Mary goes home, 1:56.

**Mary's Song!**