



BRIDGING THE GAP

HEBRON YOUTH DEVOTIONS

I'm taking a class this quarter called Women and Mission. We're learning LOTS of stories about women throughout history who have made a difference in the world by doing amazing things for God. Most of these stories are new to me (even though I'm OLD and have been in church forever) because many times the stories of women get shoved aside.

I bet you could think of several women who have had a positive impact on your life. Stop right now and think about this:

1. Who are the women who have had the biggest influence on your life?
2. Who are the women who have shown you what it looks like to live in a way that honors God?
3. How many of your teachers have been women?

What does that say to you about who has been helping you learn and grow all these years?

There are also many women in the Bible who did powerful and amazing things for God. How many can you think of? [cue *Jeopardy!* music]

One of these amazing women was Mary, the mother of Jesus. Mary was just living her life, planning her wedding to Joseph, when God interrupted her plans with a challenging assignment: Give birth to the Son of God. No biggie, right???

Mary was likely around your age when she was given the job of carrying and giving birth to Jesus. She was young and unmarried, and to be pregnant in that situation was very shameful in her culture. It could have even resulted in her being stoned to death. But when a messenger from God told Mary that God had chosen her for this special task, Mary chose to say "YES." Luke 1:38 says, "Mary responded, 'I am the Lord's servant. May everything you have said about me come true.'"

Since the very beginning, God has been using women to do amazing and powerful things. Take some time now to pray, thanking God for the wonderful women in your life. Then, take it a step further and send them a text or note letting them know how much you appreciate them.

Whether you are a young woman or a young man, you can follow the example of these amazing women by saying "YES" to God, even when your circumstances are very difficult. God has chosen you. God is with you. God has amazing things for you to accomplish, too.