

# A Rhythm of Hope: *Pete Wilson*

**Am I living a rhythm of life that restores  
God's wonder in me?**

**I believe most of us allow our understanding and experience of the  
birth of Christ to be stunted by the pattern of \_\_\_\_\_  
and the messages of \_\_\_\_\_.**

**Luke 1:26-38** <sup>26</sup>In the sixth month, God sent the angel Gabriel to Nazareth, a town in Galilee, <sup>27</sup>to a virgin pledged to be married to a man named Joseph, a descendant of David. The virgin's name was Mary. <sup>28</sup>The angel went to her and said, "Greetings, you who are highly favored! The Lord is with you." <sup>29</sup>Mary was greatly troubled at his words and wondered what kind of greeting this might be. <sup>30</sup>But the angel said to her, "Do not be afraid, Mary, you have found favor with God. <sup>31</sup>You will be with child and give birth to a son, and you are to give him the name Jesus. <sup>32</sup>He will be great and will be called the Son of the Most High. The Lord God will give him the throne of his father David, <sup>33</sup>and he will reign over the house of Jacob forever; his kingdom will never end." <sup>34</sup>"How will this be," Mary asked the angel, "since I am a virgin?"

**God will allow your \_\_\_\_\_ to dissolve in order to detach  
hope from other things and attach it to \_\_\_\_\_.**

<sup>35</sup>The angel answered, "The Holy Spirit will come upon you, and the power of the Most High will overshadow you. So the holy one to be born will be called the Son of God. <sup>36</sup>Even Elizabeth your relative is going to have a child in her old age, and she who was said to be barren is in her sixth month. <sup>37</sup>For nothing is impossible with God." <sup>38</sup>"I am the Lord's servant," Mary answered. "May it be to me as you have said." Then the angel left her.

**Luke 1:46-55** <sup>46</sup>And Mary said: "My soul glorifies the Lord <sup>47</sup>and my spirit rejoices in God my Savior, <sup>48</sup>for he has been mindful of the humble state of his servant. From now on all generations will call me blessed, <sup>49</sup>for the Mighty One has done great things for me holy is his name. <sup>50</sup>His mercy extends to those who fear him, from generation to generation. <sup>51</sup>He has performed mighty deeds with his arm; he has scattered those who are proud in their inmost thoughts. <sup>52</sup>He has brought down rulers from their thrones but has lifted up the humble. <sup>53</sup>He has filled the hungry with good things but has sent the rich away empty. <sup>54</sup>He has helped his servant Israel, remembering to be merciful <sup>55</sup>to Abraham and his descendants forever, even as he said to our fathers."

**Christmas is a reminder that you can't \_\_\_\_\_  
God.**