When God Interrupts Andy Stanley

I. Introduction.

A. Text: Luke 1.

B. God interrupted Mary's life, which is God's pattern.

C. God reserves for Himself the right to interrupt one's life at will in order to fulfill His predetermined will for our lives.

II. Mary was highly favored by God despite the conditions she faced.

A. Many women suffered because of her son at the hands of Herod.

B. She had to watch her son die.

C. We want to be able to handle God's interruptions.

III. What happens when God interrupts.

A. They are not really interruptions they are divine interventions. God interrupts a person's life to use them in the divine plan.

B. God's interruptions are redemptive in nature.

C. God's interruptions are often painful. God does this for purification and re-prioritization.

D. When God interrupts, it is worth it.

IV. Our responsibility is to respond, as God would have us respond by declaring to Him that we are His servant and accepting what He has said.

Application questions:

1. How has God interrupted your life? What did you learn?

2. Why are God's interruptions often painful?

3. How would you counsel someone having a difficult time through one of God's interruptions?