

SELAH-GRAM

Greetings!

Christmas from the Burgdorfs'



Karyn and I pray you and yours have had a wonderful Christmas wherever you've clicked this SelahGram. Melissa, Jessica, Grandpa, Samson, Karyn and I enjoyed a beautiful Texas day, one of Karyn's outstanding dinners and an especially blessed time together.

Pondering the Christmas story this week, these thoughts about Mary's relational benchmark stood out.

The true depth of Paul's marvelous Phil.4 pursuit and declaration, "*I press toward the mark for the prize... that I may know Him...*" is completely lost if not seen from the perspective of Mary's Luke 1 inquiry.

When told she will conceive and bare a son, Mary questions the angelic messenger, "*How can this be, since I know not a man?*" While I'm sure she was acquainted with several males,

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Related Thoughts:

1Jn.4 reveals the source of any deficiency of love. "*He that loveth not, knoweth not God.*" Concluding His Sermon on the Mount, Jesus declares in Mt.7 that there will come a time when multitudes will plead their case: 'Lord, we've done miracles, prophesied and cast out devils in your name. Yet the indictment will remain: ...'Yes, but I never **knew** you.' Selah.

*Jim Burgdorf Ministries
PO Box 93463
Southlake, TX 76092*

her word usage conveys a much more profound meaning. The Greek word used in both passages establishes a benchmark of relationship that God desires and even requires from you and me. It also reveals the depth to which Paul desired to encounter His God. |o/



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