



The Gift

The Unwanted Gift

Jackson Arnett

December 13th and 14th, 2025

Matthew 1:18-19

Obey God—even when it isn't CONVENIENT—because obedience isn't a FORMULA; it's TRUST.

Job 41:11, Matthew 1:20-21



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Obey God—even when people won't UNDERSTAND—
because you live for His APPROVAL, not THEIRS.

1 Thessalonians 2:4, Matthew 1:22-23

Obey God—even when you're UNCERTAIN—because His
WORD anchors what His VOICE asks of you.



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2 Timothy 3:16-17, Matthew 1:24-25

Obey God—even when you DISAGREE—because TRUST
is better than CONTROL.

Isaiah 55:8, Philippians 1:29



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"The disappointment that is exhausting and frustrating you? It holds the potential for so much good. But we'll only see it as good if we trust the heart of the Giver. You see, disappointment can be a gift from God that feels nothing like a gift at all. It's unexpectedly sharp, and the Giver can seem almost cruel as we watch someone unwrap it. Their fingers will bleed. They will feel tricked and so very tempted to stop trusting that anything good can be found within. They will most certainly question the One who allowed it to come their way. I've done all those things. I certainly threw out many deep, sob-filled questions about how God could allow this when I called my friend at 5:34 a.m. But disappointment isn't proof that God is withholding good from us. Sometimes it's His way of leading us home."

— Lysa Terkeurst (It's Not Supposed To Be This Way)

Romans 8:28

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