



Group Discussion Questions

Foreshadow - Mary December 7 and December 10, 2017

Group Discussion: What is your favorite Christmas movie and why?

Read: Luke 1

Verses 26-30 give us insight into a human encounter with an angel. The angel tells Mary not to fear. Why do you think fear is the first response of a human encountering an angel? Read Revelation 1:10-18 and notice John was worshipping when Jesus appeared to him. Read Revelation 22:6-9 where an angel appears and tells John not to worship an angel. What makes worship so unique only God is qualified to receive worship? What is worship or the elements of worship?

In Luke 1:31-33, the angel describes the narrative of Jesus life. What are the key ideas that will be true of Jesus life after He is born?

Notice vs. 34, Mary doesn't really comprehend the key ideas of Jesus life, she goes right to her understanding of human reproduction! She focuses on her lack of a consummated marriage. She knows you can't have a baby without sexual interaction. What if an angel of God appeared and said, "Tomorrow, you're going to fly all on your own!" Or, "Tomorrow, you're going to be the #1 world class pianist!" Or, "Tomorrow, you're going to" What sounds miraculous to you? Wouldn't that be unbelievable?

Mary finally, in vs. 35-38 says, "Whatever God wants to do, I'm totally committed." What could God ask you to do that would cause you to say, "I'm totally committed?" What could He ask you to do that would cause you to say, "Sorry I can't commit!"

What is interesting about Elizabeth's response in vs. 39-45? How much does she focus on Mary vs. focusing on God, vs. focusing on God's plan?

In the magnificat, vs. 46-56, Mary speaks of Abraham, which would immediately bring up the fact that God performed miraculously in Sarah's life so that she could conceive a child at 86 years of age. Mary's child is going to be the fulfillment of the promises made to Abraham! What pictures, thoughts, emotions, feelings surge through Mary as she reviews all the, "He has..." statements she speaks?

Family Time: Watch the Charlie Brown Christmas Special with your kids and talk about the climactic scene where Linus Quotes the Gospel of Luke. Explain that's why Christmas is such a big deal, we acknowledge Jesus Birthday! Make a cake and put candles on it and have them sing happy birthday to Jesus and blow out the candles. Don't forget to eat the cake.

Remember: Christmas Eve Candlelight Services:

Thursday, Dec. 21 @ 6:45p

Sunday, Dec. 24 @ 8:45a, 10:30a, 4p, 5:30p & 11p

CHRISTMAS AT GATEWAY
Christmas Eve candlelight services

THURS., DEC. 21	6:45p	worship band
SUN., DEC. 24	8:45a	chair & arch, worship band
	10:30a	worship band
	4:00p	worship band
	5:30p	chair & arch, worship band
	11:00p	worship band