

Prayer Requests:

Group Discussion: Which of these strategies did your parents use to encourage communication: Table games regularly, dinner table discussions, bedtime stories? None!

Read out loud: Luke 1:39-45

Being submissive to God's word will:

#1. Permeate (fill) you with His Spirit! ...Elizabeth was filled with the Holy Spirit.

Have you ever asked God to fill you with His Spirit so you could have greater wisdom, insight or make better decisions? Can you think of a time you wished you would have because the decision you made didn't go well? Would you be willing to pray every day for 30 days, "God permeate my soul with your Spirit today so that I might love you with my heart, soul, mind and strength and please You with all I say, think and do!"

#2. Activate spiritual gifts within you! ...the baby leaped in her womb...

How has God gifted you so that you could actively serve His Kingdom? Which gifts below would you say you have? (Romans 12, Ephesians 4 & Corinthians 12). Administration/Ruling, Apostleship/ Pioneering, Discernment, Encouraging/Exhorting, Evangelism, Faith, Giving, Hospitality, Knowledge, Leadership, Pastor/Shepherding, Prophecy/Perceiving, Teaching, Serving/Ministry, Showing Mercy, Wisdom.

#3. Motivate your belief in His plan! ...she cried out with a loud voice and said, "Blessed are you...". Elizabeth spoke out in a loud voice publicly stating her belief that Mary was going to be the mother of God. What part of your spiritual life are you motivated to talk about publicly with others?

#4. Captivate you with His mission! ...believed that there would be a fulfillment of what had been spoken to her by the Lord. Mary was captivated by faith and believed she was the mother of God even when she was less than one month pregnant with Jesus. Do you serve God through attempting to develop better attitudes, actions of love toward neighbors, worship and sing in church, teach those younger?

Family time: Get an Advent calendar and work through each day as it gives you something to do or think about. Do it the same time everyday so your kids develop the habit.