

THE WOMEN OF CHRISTMAS – MARY

LUKE 1:26-50

12/21/25

I. WHO WAS MARY?

A. Mary was favored (Luke 1:26-37)

Luke 1:26-37 - “In the sixth month the angel Gabriel was sent from God to a city of Galilee named Nazareth, ²⁷to a virgin betrothed to a man whose name was Joseph, of the house of David. And the virgin's name was Mary. ²⁸And he came to her and said, “Greetings, O favored one, the Lord is with you!” ²⁹But she was greatly troubled at the saying, and tried to discern what sort of greeting this might be. ³⁰And the angel said to her, “Do not be afraid, Mary, for you have found favor with God. ³¹And behold, you will conceive in your womb and bear a son, and you shall call his name Jesus. ³²He will be great and will be called the Son of the Most High. And the Lord God will give to him the throne of his father David, ³³and he will reign over the house of Jacob forever, and of his kingdom there will be no end.” ³⁴And Mary said to the angel, “How will this be, since I am a virgin?” ³⁵And the angel answered her, “The Holy Spirit will come upon you, and the power of the Most High will overshadow you; therefore the child to be born will be called holy—the Son of God. ³⁶And behold, your relative Elizabeth in her old age has also conceived a son, and this is the sixth month with her who was called barren. ³⁷For nothing will be impossible with God.”

1. Favor = grace (what she didn't deserve)
2. God's favor follows God's presence
3. Mary was blessed because God was with her

B. Mary had faith (Luke 1:38-45)

Luke 1:38-45 - “And Mary said, “Behold, I am the servant of the Lord; let it be to me according to your word.” And the angel departed from her. ³⁹In those days Mary arose and went with haste into the hill country, to a town in Judah, ⁴⁰and she entered the house of Zechariah and greeted Elizabeth. ⁴¹And when Elizabeth heard the greeting of Mary, the baby leaped in her womb. And Elizabeth was filled with the Holy Spirit, ⁴²and she exclaimed with a loud cry, “Blessed are you among women, and blessed is the fruit of your womb! ⁴³And why is this granted to me that the mother of my Lord should come to me? ⁴⁴For behold, when the sound of your greeting came to my ears, the baby in my womb leaped for joy. ⁴⁵And blessed is she who believed that there would be a fulfillment of what was spoken to her from the Lord.”

1. God's favor preceded Mary's faith
2. Mary believed God's word
 - a. Contrast to Zechariah in Luke 1:18
3. Mary's faith was tied to her knowledge of the Scriptures
4. God confirmed Mary's faith
 - a. John's reaction
 - b. Elizabeths prophecy

C. Mary was needy (Luke 1:46-50)

Luke 1:46-50 - “And Mary said, “My soul magnifies the Lord,⁴⁷ and my spirit rejoices in God my Savior,⁴⁸ for he has looked on the humble estate of his servant. For behold, from now on all generations will call me blessed;⁴⁹ for he who is mighty has done great things for me, and holy is his name⁵⁰ And his mercy is for those who fear him from generation to generation.”

1. Mary needed a savior for her sin
2. She emphasizes what God has done for her

II. WHY WAS MARY IN JESUS' GENEALOGY?

- A. Tamar declares – God works in brokenness
- B. Rahab declares – God welcomes outsiders
- C. Ruth declares – God redeems the curse
- D. Bathsheba declares – God brings peace
- E. MARY DECLARES – GOD SAVES

COMMUNITY GROUP DISCUSSION QUESTIONS

***Many groups are not meeting this week due to Christmas and time with family.
Take some time as a group and pray for each other this holiday season.**

1. What is one thing that stood out or challenged your thinking in the message this week?
2. What did you enjoy most about our “Women of Christmas Series”?
3. As we close out 2025, what lessons has God taught you this year? How have you grown? Take some time and praise the Lord for His continued growth.
4. Who are some unsaved friends or family members that you are praying for this holiday season and as we enter 2026? Take some time and pray for these individuals and for boldness to share the gospel with them.
5. As a group share how your Community Group has encouraged your faith walk this year. Pray and thank the Lord for your group.