



Digging Deeper

Putting your faith in ACTION!

This morning let's not be just 'hearers' of the Word, but 'doers of the word. Take some time at lunch, dinner, or bedtime to DIG DEEPER into the today's lesson and story. Take a few moments to apply today's lesson to our lives.

ASK MYSELF...challenging questions for the heart:

1. How does the knowledge that Jesus is fully God and fully man encourage you? (Consider what he understands about our weaknesses and struggles for example.)
2. Jesus and his mother Mary modeled two very important attributes for us: willingness to be used in God's mission and incredible personal sacrifice. How might you follow their model today?
3. What other characteristics and qualities to you think Jesus may have learned from his earthly mother? If you have children, consider what you are imparting to them.
4. Spend a few moments today reflecting on the Son of God and Mary. How would He like to use you this Christmas?

FOR THE FAMILY...challenging questions for family life:

1. Read together Luke 1:26-35. Discuss the idea that Jesus had God as His Father and Mary as an earthly mother. See what questions your kids ask – in the simplest of terms, help them understand that Jesus is both fully God and fully man.
2. Did your family participate in Season of Giving this year? If so, reflect on the how it felt to take part and what you saw God do.
3. Take some time pray together.



Today's Service

December 17th, 2017

Series: What Child is This?

Part 3: Thirsty

Pastor Brian Stanley



Luke 1:26-35 (NLT) ²⁶In the sixth month of Elizabeth's pregnancy, God sent the angel Gabriel to Nazareth, a village in Galilee, ²⁷to a virgin named Mary. She was engaged to be married to a man named Joseph, a descendant of King David. ²⁸Gabriel appeared to her and said, "Greetings, favored woman! The Lord is with you!" ²⁹Confused and disturbed, Mary tried to think what the angel could mean. ³⁰"Don't be afraid, Mary," the angel told her, "for you have found favor with God!" ³¹You will conceive and give birth to a son, and you will name him Jesus. ³²He will be very great and will be called the Son of the Most High. The Lord God will give him the throne of his ancestor David.³³And he will reign over Israel forever; his Kingdom will never end!" ³⁴Mary asked the angel, "But how can this happen? I am a virgin." ³⁵The angel replied, "The Holy Spirit will come upon you, and the power of the Most High will overshadow you. So the baby to be born will be holy, and he will be called the Son of God.

John 4:24a (NLT) ²⁴For God is Spirit..."

Hebrews 1:3a (ESV) ³He is the radiance of the glory of God and the exact imprint of his nature, and he upholds the universe by the word of his power.

Jesus is fully _____.

Jesus also is fully _____.

Philippians 2:6-8a (NLT) ⁶Though he was God, he did not think of equality with God as something to cling to. ⁷Instead, he gave up his divine privileges; he took the humble position of a slave and was born as a human being. When he appeared in human form,⁸ he humbled himself...

Genesis 5:1b-2 (NLT) ⁵...When God created human beings, he made them to be like himself. ²He created them male and female, and he blessed them and called them "human."

Isaiah 66:13 (NLT) ¹³"I will comfort you there in Jerusalem as a mother comforts her child."

Isaiah 49:15 (NLT) ¹⁵"Never! Can a mother forget her nursing child? Can she feel no love for the child she has borne? But even if that were possible, I would not forget you!"

Deuteronomy 32:11-12 (NLT) ¹¹Like an eagle that rouses her chicks and hovers over her young, so he spread his wings to take them up and carried them safely on his pinions.

¹²The Lord alone guided them; they followed no foreign gods.

Psalm 22:9-10 (NLT) ⁹Yet you brought me safely from my mother's womb and led me to trust you at my mother's breast.

¹⁰I was thrust into your arms at my birth. You have been my God from the moment I was born.

Psalm 71:6 (NLT) ⁶Yes, you have been with me from birth; from my mother's womb you have cared for me. No wonder I am always praising you!

Hosea 13:8 (NLT) ⁸Like a bear whose cubs have been taken away, I will tear out your heart. I will devour you like a hungry lioness and mangle you like a wild animal.

Luke 13:34 (NLT) ³⁴"O Jerusalem, Jerusalem, the city that kills the prophets and stones God's messengers! How often I have wanted to gather your children together as a hen protects her chicks beneath her wings, but you wouldn't let me."

Luke 1:38 (NLT) ³⁸Mary responded, "I am the Lord's servant. May everything you have said about me come true." And then the angel left her.

Luke 22:41-44 (NLT) ⁴¹He walked away, about a stone's throw, and knelt down and prayed, ⁴²"Father, if you are willing, please take this cup of suffering away from me. Yet I want your will to be done, not mine." ⁴³Then an angel from heaven appeared and strengthened him. ⁴⁴He prayed more fervently, and he was in such agony of spirit that his sweat fell to the ground like great drops of blood."

Luke 2:33-35 (NLT) ³³Jesus' parents were amazed at what was being said about him. ³⁴Then Simeon blessed them, and he said to Mary, the baby's mother, "This child is destined to cause many in Israel to fall, and many others to rise. He has been sent as a sign from God, but many will oppose him. ³⁵As a result, the deepest thoughts of many hearts will be revealed. And a sword will pierce your very soul."

John 19:25a (NLT) ²⁵Standing near the cross were Jesus' mother...

John 19:26-27 (NLT) ²⁶When Jesus saw his mother standing there beside the disciple he loved, he said to her, "Dear woman, here is your son." ²⁷And he said to this disciple, "Here is your mother." And from then on this disciple took her into his home.

NOTES:

