



# 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. What has God asked you to 'provide' this Christmas?
2. The key ingredient to God's work of salvation in the world is our participation. Are you able to see how your 'provision' fits into this greater picture? Why or why not?
3. What 'real estate' in your life needs to be yielded to God's greater plan?

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

1. Read Luke 1:126-38 together.
2. Discuss Mary's role of providing the space for Jesus to be born.
3. Discuss the idea that God desires space in our lives also.
4. Take some time pray together.

## DEVOTIONS FOR THE SEASON...scan code for Advent inspiration:



The first message in our series speaks to the first call of Christmas being that of *a call to prepare*. What better way to daily *prepare* our hearts than to meditate on God's great gift to us this season. You'll enjoy this 31 day devotional guide as you focus on Christ this season.

<http://bit.ly/2gy54JI>



## Today's Service

December 4<sup>th</sup>, 2016

### Part 2

## "Mary: A Call to Provide"

Pastor Brian Stanley



### **Luke 1:26-38 (NLT)**

<sup>26</sup>In the sixth month of Elizabeth's pregnancy, God sent the angel Gabriel to Nazareth, a village in Galilee, <sup>27</sup>to a virgin named Mary. She was engaged to be married to a man named Joseph, a descendant of King David. <sup>28</sup>Gabriel appeared to her and said, "Greetings, favored woman! The Lord is with you!"

<sup>29</sup>Confused and disturbed, Mary tried to think what the angel could mean. <sup>30</sup>"Don't be afraid, Mary," the angel told her, "for you have found favor with God! <sup>31</sup>You will conceive and give birth to a son, and you will name him Jesus. <sup>32</sup>He 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.<sup>33</sup> And he will reign over Israel forever; his Kingdom will never end!"

<sup>34</sup>Mary asked the angel, "But how can this happen? I am a virgin."

<sup>35</sup>The 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. <sup>36</sup>What's more, your relative Elizabeth has become pregnant in her old age! People used to say she was barren, but she has conceived a son and is now in her sixth month.<sup>37</sup> For the word of God will never fail."

<sup>38</sup>Mary responded, "I am the Lord's servant. May everything you have said about me come true." And then the angel left her.

### **Isaiah 7:14 (NLT)**

<sup>14</sup>All right then, the Lord himself will give you the sign. Look! The virgin will conceive a child! She will give birth to a son and will call him Immanuel (which means 'God is with us').

### **Judges 6:12 (NLT)**

<sup>12</sup>The angel of the Lord appeared to him and said, "Mighty hero, the Lord is with you!"

### **Exodus 40:34-35 (NLT)**

<sup>34</sup>Then the cloud covered the Tabernacle, and the glory of the Lord filled the Tabernacle. <sup>35</sup>Moses could no longer enter the Tabernacle because the cloud had settled down over it, and the glory of the Lord filled the Tabernacle.

### **Psalms 104:30 (NIV)**

<sup>30</sup>When you send your Spirit, they are created, and you renew the face of the ground.

### **NOTES:**

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