



WELCOME:

What is your opinion about the cultural war of how to greet at Christmas?

WORSHIP:

Play a You Tube of "Joy to the World" or favorite Christmas carol.

WORD: LUKE 1:26-56

Observation questions:

1. Who are the players in this drama? What do we know about each?
2. What does "betrothed" (ESV) pledged (NIV) mean? (verse 27)
3. Where does the story take place? (locate on map)
4. How long of time does it cover?
5. Compare/contrast to John the Baptist birth announcement. (1:5-25)

Interpretation/application questions:

1. What spoke to you from today's sermon?
2. Was there anything in today's sermon that needs to be discussed or clarified?
3. What kind of pain and trials might Mary have experienced from having God's baby?
Do you think she realized it?
4. Why do you think her "joy" could not be stolen by pain?
5. Have you maintained joy in trials and pain? Why? Why not?
6. Why did Mary go to see Elizabeth?
7. How do you think Mary felt after Elizabeth's greeting?
8. Do you seek to encourage people who are carrying out God's will?
Why? Why not? Will you?
9. How do you think verse 44 might speak to the issue of when does life begin?
10. What does Mary praise God for?
11. How does Mary see herself?
12. On a scale of 1-10, where is joy quotient?
13. What action do you need to take to have a "Mary kind of Christmas"?

WORK:

Bless the City Christmas project?

WITNESS:

Who will you pray for and invite to one of our Christmas Eve services?