

DISCUSSION QUESTIONS FROM DECEMBER 11/12 SERMON

If you missed the sermon, you can find it at biblechapel.org/sermons.

1. This week we focused on the “Eye of Expectation” in our sermon series Christmas Through the Eyes of a Child. What are you most excited about as you look forward with expectation to this Christmas season?

Any big plans to share with the group?

2. **Read** Mary’s song in **Luke 1:46-55**.

This Song of Mary is known as the Magnificat. That word Magnificat is the first word in the Latin translation of Mary’s song which simply means “magnify” or “exalt”. Mary’s song is filled with personal praise, acknowledgement of God’s faithfulness to Israel in the past, and also expectation to what Jesus would do as the long-awaited Messiah.

Overall, what do you see in Mary’s song that sticks out to you regarding her magnifying the Lord?

3. **Read Luke 1:48-50** then **Matthew 25:34**. We said this weekend regardless of our circumstances:

Because of Jesus...every Christian is an
eternally blessed Christian.

Do you believe that statement? If so, what causes believers at times to live as if we are not blessed? How can we practically live as “eternally blessed” believers to a watching world?

4. **Read Luke 1:48-53, Matthew 23:12, James 4:6, and 1 Peter 5:5**

We said this weekend:

Because of Jesus...every Christian should daily live
with humble hunger for their God.

What does it practically look like for a believer to live with “humble hunger” for God? Is there an area in your life where you can admit you have not displayed “humble hunger” for God?

5. Read Luke 1:46-47

We said this weekend, at the end of the day:

Because of Jesus...every Christian's ultimate desire should
be to magnify their God.

Spend some time sharing what it looks like to "magnify" or "exalt" God with all that is within us. Then share and pray for one another any areas where you need to submit to God in order to truly magnify him in that area moving forward.

BIBLE REFERENCES

Luke 1:46-55 ESV

Mary's Song of Praise: The Magnificat

⁴⁶ 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 name.

⁵⁰ And his mercy is for those who fear him
from generation to generation.

⁵¹ He has shown strength with his arm;
he has scattered the proud in the thoughts of their hearts;

⁵² he has brought down the mighty from their thrones
and exalted those of humble estate;

⁵³ he has filled the hungry with good things,
and the rich he has sent away empty.

⁵⁴ He has helped his servant Israel,
in remembrance of his mercy,

⁵⁵ as he spoke to our fathers,
to Abraham and to his offspring forever."

Matthew 25:34 ESV

³⁴ Then the King will say to those on his right, 'Come, you who are blessed by my Father, inherit the kingdom prepared for you from the foundation of the world.'

Matthew 23:12 ESV 1

¹² Whoever exalts himself will be humbled, and whoever humbles himself will be exalted.

James 4:6 ESV

⁶ But he gives more grace. Therefore it says, "God opposes the proud but gives grace to the humble."

1 Peter 5:5 ESV

⁵ Likewise, you who are younger, be subject to the elders. Clothe yourselves, all of you, with humility toward one another, for "God opposes the proud but gives grace to the humble."