Sermon Study | The Way Back From Chaos | Luke 1:26-35 December 15, 2019

Dive deeper into this week's message and passages from the Bible. Here are some questions to help you quide your group discussion.

*Note to Leaders: We've spent the last couple of weeks studying Luke 1:26-38. If your group hasn't met, feel free to go back to the two previous sermon studies for more questions on that passage. This week will focus mainly on vs. 34-35.

Sermon Review: So much of our lives get crushed by chaos because we keep focusing on the unexpected and unknown. But it's not about how-it's about who. Don't get lost in the chaos. Even in the mess, even in the chaos, God always has a plan for you. The Holy Spirit will come upon you, and the power of the Most High will overshadow you. God's Spirit is with you.

Warm-up Question: What causes the most chaos in your life during the Christmas season? What brings you the most peace?

- Read Luke 1:26-35
 Ryan mentioned chaos as being triggered by two main things that Mary was likely experiencing in these verses: the unexpected and the unknown. Her question to Gabriel in verse 34 is evidence of her confusion and the fact that she's focusing on the unknown. Talk about a time when you, like Mary, felt God calling you to do something but you got stuck in the unknown or 'how' it would all happen?
 - How does the angel answer Mary's question in verse 35? How does he direct her away • from the 'how' and instead to the 'who'?
 - What would it look like for you, practically, to focus on allowing the Holy Spirit to come upon you and overshadow you?

Read Luke 2:8-15

- As Mary and Joseph are facing their own chaotic moment, bringing Jesus into the world in a stable or barn, describe what is happening with the shepherds in a nearby field.
- How does this event show us that God is orchestrating the events of this chaotic night?
- How do you react when things don't go as you intended or expected? How would it change your perspective to think of order as 'things going as God intended'?

Read Matthew 10:28-31

- These verses are an example of the truth we find in just a few verses of Scripture. What do they show about your value to God?
- Which truths in your Bible can help you overcome the lies you hear in moments of confusion and chaos? Make a list together as a group that you can recall in those moments of chaos (check out this document for further guidance).

REFLECT
What is God saying to you through His word? How and when will you respond?

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