

# The Christmas STORY





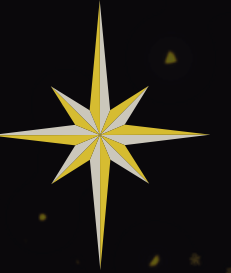


Immanuel, God is with us

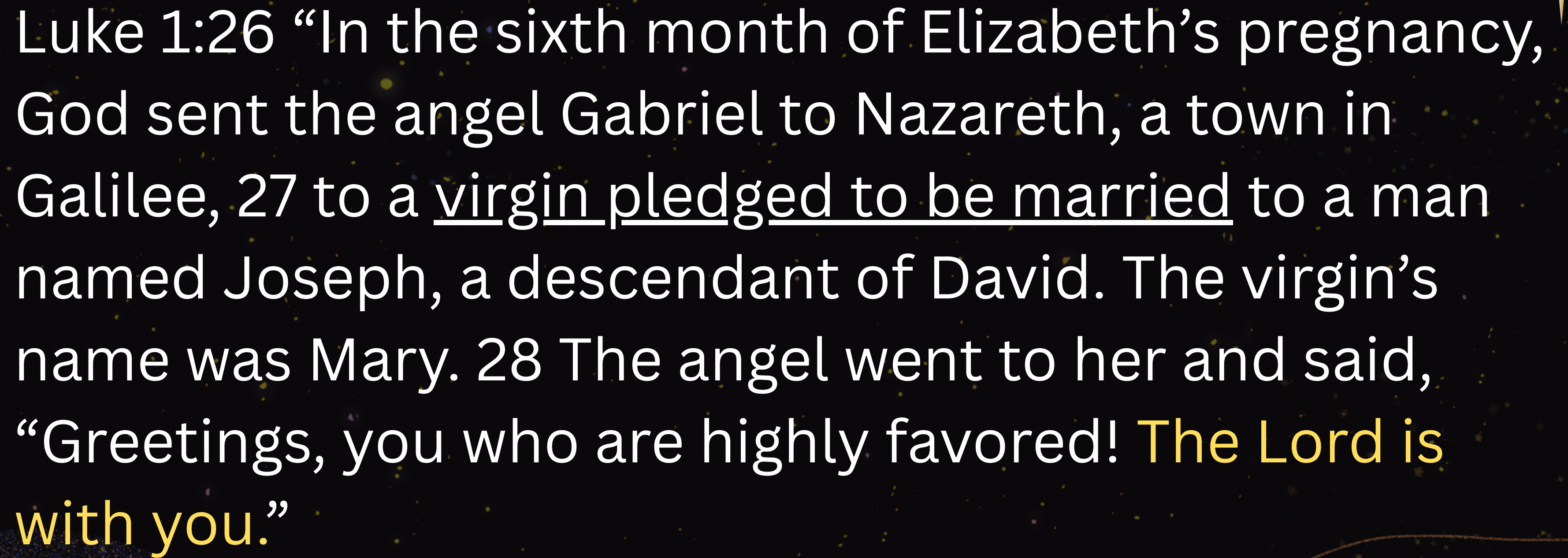
When God came down to rescue us!



# The Virgin Mary







Luke 1:26 “In the sixth month of Elizabeth’s pregnancy, God sent the angel Gabriel to Nazareth, a town in Galilee, 27 to a virgin pledged to be married to a man named Joseph, a descendant of David. The virgin’s name was Mary. 28 The angel went to her and said, “Greetings, you who are highly favored! **The Lord is with you.**”



# A Jewish marriage involved three steps ✨


**The Pledged stage:** Two families would arrange the marriage of their children. There would be an exchange of property and legal documents signed by the groom to make them married. (They remained sexually pure)

**The waiting and return stage:** During this time the groom would go to his father's house and prepare a place for his new bride. The bride waited for his return. When everything was ready, he would return for his bride with a loud trumpet blast and lit torches.

**The Wedding feast & celebration:** The bride and groom would celebrate with their families.

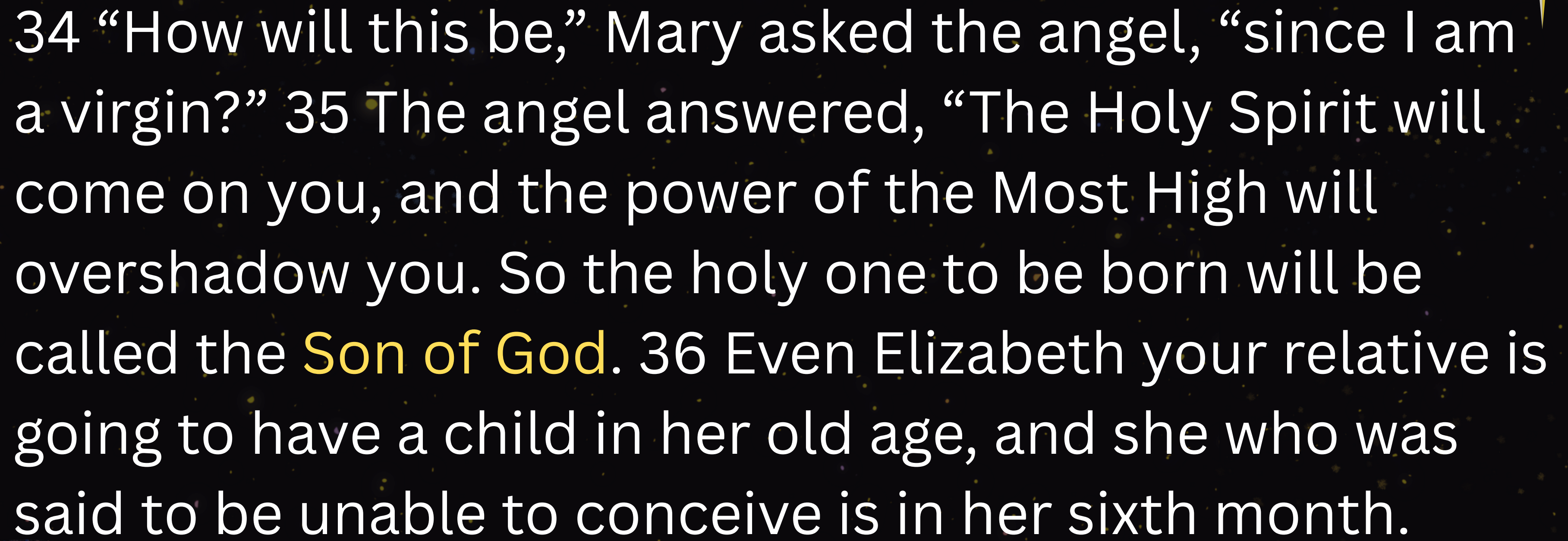







29 “Mary was greatly troubled at his words and wondered what kind of greeting this might be. 30 But the angel said to her, “Do not be afraid, Mary; you have found favor with God. 31 You will conceive and give birth to a son, and you are to call him **Jesus**. 32 He will be great and will be called the **Son of the Most High**. The Lord God will give him **the throne of his father David**, 33 and he will reign over Jacob’s descendants forever; his kingdom will never end.”





34 “How will this be,” Mary asked the angel, “since I am a virgin?” 35 The angel answered, “The Holy Spirit will come on you, and the power of the Most High will overshadow you. So the holy one to be born will be called the **Son of God**. 36 Even Elizabeth your relative is going to have a child in her old age, and she who was said to be unable to conceive is in her sixth month.





37 For no word from God will ever fail.” 38 “I am the Lord’s servant,” Mary answered. “May your word to me be fulfilled.” Then the angel left her.” 39 “At that time Mary got ready and hurried to a town in the hill country of Judea, 40 where she entered Zechariah’s home and greeted Elizabeth.”



# Jesus is God



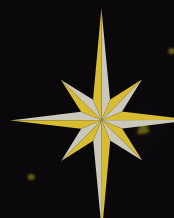
- Immanuel= God is with us
- Jesus= Save people from their sins
- The Son of God = Divine
- Sit on King David's throne = Messiah the King
- Logos = The Word is God, and the word becomes flesh



# A man named Joseph







Matthew 1:18 “This is how the birth of Jesus the Messiah came about: His mother Mary was pledged to be married to Joseph, but before they came together, she was found to be pregnant through the Holy Spirit.  
19 Because Joseph her husband was faithful to the law, and yet did not want to expose her to public disgrace, he had in mind to divorce her quietly.”




# Mary and Joseph experienced brokenness




- An unexpected pregnancy-was she unfaithful to him?
- He could have her stoned to death. (Baby too)
- He could divorce her and call off the wedding.
- She would be a single mom with the “Scarlett letter”
- He could marry her.
- Immanuel is with us and he brings grace and peace!





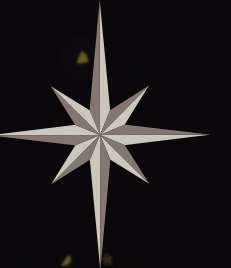
20 “But after he had considered this, an angel of the Lord appeared to him in a dream and said, “Joseph son of David, do not be afraid to take Mary home as your wife, because what is conceived in her is from the Holy Spirit. 21 She will give birth to a son, and you are to give him the name **Jesus**, because he will save his people from their sins.” 22 All this took place to fulfill what the Lord had said through the prophet: 23 “The virgin will conceive and give birth to a son, and they will call him **Immanuel**” (which means “God with us”).”





24 “When Joseph woke up, he did what the angel of the Lord had commanded him and took Mary home as his wife. 25 But he did not consummate their marriage until she gave birth to a son. And he gave him the name **Jesus.**”





# Two Questions Come to Mind

1. What difficulty or struggle are you facing or have faced? **God is with you!**
2. What sin have you committed that you feel there's no hope for you to get right with God?  
**Jesus came down to save sinners!**