### QUESTION: In your generation, how do you become popular or famous?













How do you get famous?









### Mary, the mother of Jesus



What does the Bible have to say about her?

#### Luke 1:26-38

<sup>26</sup> In the sixth month of Elizabeth's pregnancy, God sent the angel Gabriel to Nazareth, a town in Galilee, <sup>27</sup> 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."

<sup>29</sup> 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. <sup>31</sup> You will conceive and give birth to a son, and you are to call him Jesus.

Most High. The Lord God will give him the throne of his father David, <sup>33</sup> and he will reign over Jacob's descendants forever; his kingdom will never end." <sup>34</sup> "How will this be," Mary asked the angel, "since I am a virgin?"

<sup>35</sup> 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<sup>[a]</sup> the Son of God.

<sup>36</sup> 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. <sup>37</sup> For no word from God will ever fail."

<sup>38</sup> "I am the Lord's servant," Mary answered. "May your word to me be fulfilled." Then the angel left her.



#### Luke 1:26

"God sent the angel Gabriel to Nazareth, a village in Galilee to a virgin named Mary. She was engaged to be married to a man named Joseph, a descendent of David."

What information does this verse give us so far?



A bit more on her background:

- A teenager
- A young women with no real rights or status

A LOWLY GIRL FROM AN AVERAGE PLACE... and yet...

### God did not see her as lowly, as a nobody.

V 28: Gabriel appeared to her and said, "Greetings, favored woman! The Lord is with you!"



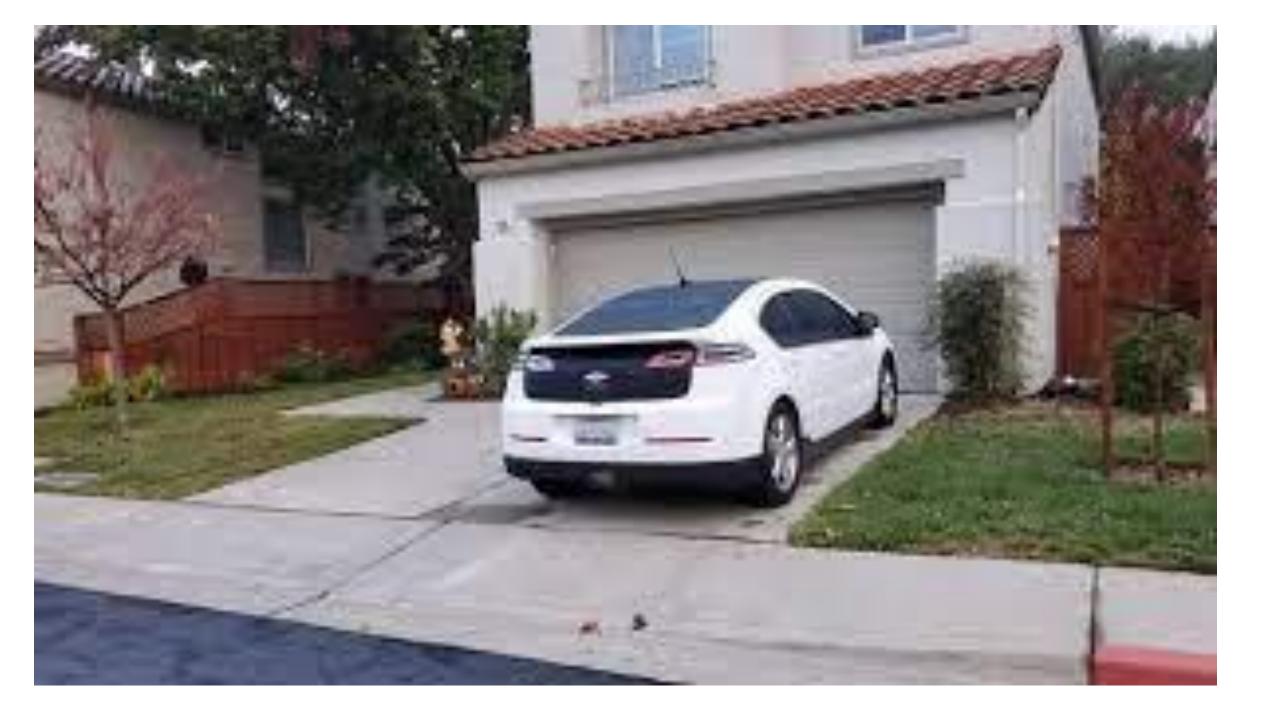
What does favored mean?



WHY was this girl highly favoured by God and chosen for one of the greatest jobs in human history?

1. She was available and willing.





2. She had humility and was from humble origins.



3. He chose her to fulfill the prophecies and scriptures that were foretold years ago.



3. He chose her to fulfill the prophecies and scriptures that were foretold years ago.

a. Jesus would be a Nazarene

Matthew 2:23 "23 So was fulfilled what was said through the prophets, that he would be called a Nazarene."

3. He chose her to fulfill the prophecies and scriptures that were foretold years ago.

b. Jesus would be born of a virgin.

"Therefore the Lord himself shall give you a sign: Behold, a virgin shall conceive, and bear a son, and shall call his name Immanuel." **Isaiah** 7:14

3. He chose her to fulfill the prophecies and scriptures that were foretold years ago.

c. Jesus will be a descendent of David.

"Of the increase of his government and peace there shall be no end, upon the throne of David, and upon his kingdom, to order it, and to establish it with judgment and with justice from henceforth even for ever. The zeal of the LORD of hosts will perform this. (Isaiah 9:7)

Mary was a key player in the EPIC STORY OF SALVATION.

## Could God use me to change the world?

Key #1: Be willing, ready, and available to say yes to what God asks.

# Key #2: Don't focus on your limitations and lowliness; focus on HIS power and glory.

### Key #3: Remember God's promises and that His Words will not fail.

### Don't forget:

Say yes to what God asks.

Let Him be strong in your weaknesses.

And trust what He says He'll do.



#### SMALL GROUP QUESTIONS:

- 1. Describe a time when you've said yes to something you felt God asking you to do or not do. (If you're new or maybe don't have an example, share a time where you did the right thing in a situation.)
- 2. Is there something in your life you feel God is asking you to do or not do right now? How do you feel about that?
- 3. What's holding you back from truly following God and saying yes to Him? If you're in a place of full surrender, what's held you back in the past? Be honest about those struggles. (examples if stuck: fear, loneliness, insecurity, doubt, etc.)
- 3. How do you think God could use you to change this world? Think about your unique personality, abilities, and relationships that only you have. How might he use you to make a difference? (Don't focus on your limitations and weaknesses, but focus on God's strength in you.
- 4. What promises of God do you need to trust in today? What do you need to remember from His Word that will help you stay courageous?
- 5. Share some prayer requests and/or highs and lows in general. Take some time to pray for each other