



FIRST BORN

CHRISTMASTIME AT RCC

It Takes a Village

FIRST BORN 



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**God's plan for Mary and their son
wasn't immediately clear to her.
But God used His faithful people to
increase her joy, trust, and understanding
of Jesus' role as our savior.**

Mary's Story

Luke 1:26-38

Gabriel sent to Mary

Luke 1:39-56

Mary visits Elizabeth

Luke 2:1-7

Jesus is born

Luke 2:8-21

Shepherds visit

Luke 2:22-35

Jesus with Simeon

Luke 2:41-52

Boy Jesus teaches

Mary wondered what God had in store.

- God has chosen you

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Mary wondered what God had in store.

- God has chosen you
 - Why me?

Luke 1:26-38

²⁶ In the sixth month the angel Gabriel was sent from God to a city of Galilee named Nazareth, ²⁷ to a virgin betrothed to a man whose name was Joseph, of the house of David. And the virgin's name was Mary.

²⁸ And he came to her and said, **“Greetings, O favored one, the Lord is with you!”** ²⁹ **But she was greatly troubled** at the saying, and tried to discern what sort of greeting this might be. ³⁰ And the angel said to her, **“Do not be afraid,** Mary, for you have found favor with God. ³¹ And behold, you will conceive in your womb and bear a son, and you shall

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 - **How? I'm not married, yet.**

Luke 1:26-38

³⁰ And the angel said to her, “Do not be afraid, Mary, for you have found favor with God. ³¹ And behold, you will conceive in your womb and bear a son, and you shall call his name Jesus. ³² **He will be great** and will be called the Son of the Most High. And the Lord God will give to him the throne of his father David, ³³ and **he will reign** over the house of Jacob forever, and of **his kingdom there will be no end.** ³⁴ And Mary said to the angel, **“How will this be, since I am a virgin?”**

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- **Trust God**

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- Trust God
 - **Ok.**

Luke 1:26-38

³⁴ And Mary said to the angel, “How will this be, since I am a virgin?” ³⁵ And the angel answered her, “The Holy Spirit will come upon you, and the power of the Most High will overshadow you; therefore the child to be born will be called holy—the Son of God. ³⁶ **And behold, your relative Elizabeth in her old age has also conceived** a son, and this is the sixth month with her who was called barren. ³⁷ For **nothing will be impossible with God.**” ³⁸ And Mary said, **“Behold, I am the servant of the Lord; let it be to me according to your word.”**

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 - **What do I tell Joseph?**

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 - **Our parents?**

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 - **Ok. But...**
 - What about Joseph?
 - Our parents?
 - **Our neighbors?**

How's this king thing going to work?

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Luke 1:39-56

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;

Luke 1:39-56

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.”

Mary wondered what God had in store.

**Mary was emboldened by others'
experience of Jesus.**

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- **Elizabeth helped her see God's grace**

Luke 1:39-56

³⁹ In those days Mary arose and went with haste into the hill country, to a town in Judah, ⁴⁰ and she entered the house of Zechariah and greeted Elizabeth. ⁴¹ And when Elizabeth heard the greeting of Mary, the baby leaped in her womb. And Elizabeth was filled with the Holy Spirit, ⁴² and she exclaimed with a loud cry, “Blessed are you among women, and blessed is the fruit of your womb!

⁴³ And why is this granted to me that the mother of my Lord should come to me? ⁴⁴ For behold, when the sound of your greeting came to my ears, the

Luke 1:39-56

baby in my womb leaped for joy. ⁴⁵ And blessed is she who believed that there would be a fulfillment of what was spoken to her from the Lord.” 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

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- **The shepherds helped her treasure the joy of God's faithfulness**

Luke 2:8-20

¹⁵ When the angels went away from them into heaven, the shepherds said to one another, “Let us go over to Bethlehem and see this thing that has happened, which the Lord has made known to us.” ¹⁶ And they went with haste and found Mary and Joseph, and the baby lying in a manger. ¹⁷ And when they saw it, they made known the saying that had been told them concerning this child. ¹⁸ And all who heard it wondered at what the shepherds told them. ¹⁹ But Mary treasured up all these things, pondering them in her heart. ²⁰ And the shepherds returned, glorifying, and praising God for all they had heard and seen, as it had been told them.

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- **Simeon expanded her understanding of the vastness of Jesus' role**

Luke 2:25-33

²⁷ And he came in the Spirit into the temple, and when the parents brought in the child Jesus, to do for him according to the custom of the Law, ²⁸ he took him up in his arms and blessed God and said, ²⁹ “Lord, now you are letting your servant depart in peace, according to your word; ³⁰ for my eyes have seen your salvation³¹ that you have prepared in the presence of all peoples, ³² a light for revelation to the Gentiles, and for glory to your people Israel.” ³³ And his father and his mother marveled at what was said about him.

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- **Jesus encouraged her faith in her special son**

Luke 2:41-51

⁴⁶ After three days they found him in the temple, sitting among the teachers, listening to them and asking them questions. ⁴⁷ And all who heard him were amazed at his understanding and his answers. ⁴⁸ And when his parents saw him, they were astonished. And his mother said to him, “Son, why have you treated us so? Behold, your father and I have been searching for you in great distress.” ⁴⁹ And he said to them, “Why were you looking for me? Did you not know that I must be in my Father's house?” ⁵⁰ And they did not understand the saying that he spoke to them.

Luke 2:41-51

⁵¹ And he went down with them and came to Nazareth and was submissive to them. And his mother treasured up all these things in her heart.

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- Simeon expanded her understanding of the vastness of Jesus role
- Jesus encouraged her faith in her special son
- **Jesus and John inspired her to keep going**

Mary wondered what God had in store.

Mary was emboldened by others' experience of Jesus.

Mary's ultimate desire was that others share in the joy of her son, the Savior.

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- **Fully experienced her need for a savior**

Acts 1:12-14

¹² Then they returned to Jerusalem from the mount called Olivet, which is near Jerusalem, a Sabbath day's journey away. ¹³ And when they had entered, they went up to the upper room, where they were staying, Peter and John and James and Andrew, Philip and Thomas, Bartholomew and Matthew, James the son of Alphaeus and Simon the Zealot and Judas the son of James. ¹⁴ All these with one accord were devoting themselves to prayer, together with the women and Mary the mother of Jesus, and his brothers.

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Mary's ultimate desire was that others share in the joy of her son, the Savior.

- Fully experienced her need for a savior
- **She prayed for the advancement of the Savior's story to others**

This Christmas Season:

- **Read all of Luke, Chapters 1 & 2**

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- **Take an inventory of those who have helped you see Jesus, our Savior, more clearly**

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 - **Send them a card**

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 - **Give them a call**
 - **Give them a hug**

This Christmas Season:

- Read all of Luke, Chapters 1 & 2
- If you feel like you need encouragement, please ask
- Take an inventory of those who have helped you see Jesus, our Savior, more clearly
 - Send them a card
 - Give them a call
 - Give them a hug
- **Pray that God will use you and your gifts to share Jesus and encourage others this Christmas**