

Lesson 2 – Mary, the Mother of Jesus – Matthew 1-2, Luke 1-2

Section A – The Pregnancy of Mary

1. a. What happened to the young girl, Mary, in Luke 1:26-30?

b. Why do you think she would have chosen for such an honor? In what ways would it appear to be less than an honor in her immediate future?

c. In the last lesson we looked at finding favor with God. (vs. 28) Do you think you have found favor with God? In what ways?
2. What were the predictions the angel gave to Mary in Luke 1:31-33? Find as many as you can.
3. Give Mary's question and Gabriel's answer out of vs. 34-37. Do you believe it?

Section B – Mary and Elizabeth – Luke 1:39-45

4. a. In Luke 1:39-45, Mary hurried off to visit Elizabeth. Why do you think Elizabeth reacted as she did?

b. Contrast vs. 42 with vs. 20. What is the difference you find there?

c. What do you learn about Mary's faith from Mary's song in vs. 46-55?
5. a. How long did Mary stay with Elizabeth? (vs. 56)

Mary and Joseph – Matthew 1:18-25

6. a. When Mary returned and Joseph learned of her condition, what was his initial reaction? Matthew 1:18-19

b. What changed his mind? (vs. 20-23)

c. Why do you think Joseph reacted as he did in vs. 24-25?

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6.d. How difficult do you think all this was for Mary? Have you ever been spiritually suspect by someone you loved or respected? Perhaps unjustly condemned? How did you feel?

Section C – And Then it was Christmas – Luke 2:1-40

7.a. What moves you about the very familiar story of the birth of Jesus in these verses? Did you notice anything you have never really noticed before?

b. Where were you born? Were there any unusual or interesting circumstances surrounding your birth?

8. What does Matthew 1:22-2:12 add that Luke omits?

9.a. What Old Testament laws did Joseph and Mary obey in Luke 2, vs. 21-24? Can you find an Old Testament reference for each one?

b. Who recognized Jesus as Messiah at the temple in Luke 2:25-32? What is remarkable about his prophecy?

b. What did Simeon prophesy for Mary in vs. 33-35?

Section D – Anna, the Prophetess – Luke 2:36-38

10. What impresses you about Anna, the Prophetess, in vs. 36-38? How do you think she came to be doing this ministry at the temple? (I Timothy 5:5, 9-10) Was it just her need, or also her calling?

11.a. Where did Joseph and Mary settle according to Luke 2:39-40, and what happened to Jesus? (What a prayer that would be for our children and grandchildren. Dare to begin praying it for them today!)

b. In Matthew 2, vs. 13-23, we see how Mary and Joseph and Jesus happened to settle in Galilee. What do you learn there about what happened to them after the birth of Jesus?