

GOD WITH US: MARY & JOSEPH

Luke 1:26-38 & Matthew 1:18-25

What is it like to be visited by an angel? What is it like to be touched by the power of the Holy Spirit? What can we learn about faith from Mary's perspective? How does Joseph's faith inform our own?

Monday: Read Matthew 1:18-21.

When you are making a big decision in life, how do you discern where God is leading you?

Tuesday: Read Matthew 1:22-25.

Have you ever sensed God's presence in your life?

How can the promise of "God with us" bring joy and hope to your life?

Wednesday: Read Luke 1:26-28.

Do you wish God's favor for you was all comfort and luxury?

What do you think it means to be "highly favored" by God?

Thursday: Read Luke 1:29-34.

What happens when you are overwhelmed? How do you typically react?

Friday: Read Luke 1:35-38.

Are you ready and willing to surrender your life to God's leading as Mary does?

Why or why not?

Saturday: Read Luke 1:46-55.

What would you include in a song if you were writing to celebrate God's blessings?

SUMMARY

Mary had to have been terrified. A young woman pregnant out of wedlock. Joseph had to have been devastated to find out that Mary was pregnant. An honorable man, he seeks to do the honorable thing. But God has other plans for this story, plans that overcome fear and invite courageous responses in faith.

We can choose to believe in God's love; to live with the promise that God is with us.