

Welcoming Christmas: the humility of Mary & Elizabeth

Luke 1.26-56

Focus: welcoming the message of Jesus' incarnation with our humility and our trust

RESOURCES:

Here are some helpful short videos on how to start gospel conversations this Christmas season:

<https://vimeopro.com/wheatoncollege/speaking-the-story>



2017 Annual Priority:

To embrace & exalt Christ as most worthy in our lives, that we might: know Him truly, Love Him supremely, obey Him faithfully, and share Him gladly

Discussion:

- Read Luke 1.26-56. What does Gabriel give to Mary to strengthen her faith? Why is this response less harsh than that given to Zechariah (see. 1. 18-20)?
- What challenges/encourages you about Mary's response in v. 38? How would that kind of faith look in your life these days?
- How does Elizabeth's response in vv. 41-45 encourage/challenge you? How do you see humility expressed in her response?
- What attributes of God are expressed in Mary's "song" in vv. 46-55?
- How can Mary's song shape your worship this Christmas? i.e. How can you embrace her view of God, herself and others?
- Share ideas about how you can set aside a longer time (say 1-3 hours or so) for personal reflection and worship this Christmas season!

OPTION: you may want to think about how your group, like all the supporting cast in Luke 1, can point people to Christ this Christmas. You may want to watch one or more of the videos at the "Speaking the Story" link in the side bar. If you'd like to make that the main focus of your group and skip the discussion of Luke 1, go for it! Spend time in prayer for these plans!

- please encourage your group's **participation in JOF**. If anyone has not turned in their pledges, they can find key info. on our website:

<http://northwake.com/resources/articles/jof-building-campaign/>

- Also encourage them in **servicing Sundays at NW**. Study/serve signups are ongoing in the lobby!