



SEQUIM COMMUNITY CHURCH
WOMEN OF THE BIBLE
October 25, 2016

Mary

MOTHER OF JESUS

Young Mary of Nazareth had the unique privilege of being mother to the very Son of God. Because angels don't usually make appointments, we can understand her puzzlement and anxiousness at Gabriel's greeting and declaration. Mary did not doubt his message but could not see how pregnancy would be possible. Her faithful response to the Gabriel reflected her inner courage and faith as a willing servant of the Lord. Although she faced many challenges along the way, including giving birth in a stable, she remained steadfast in her calling as the mother of our Lord and Savior Jesus Christ.

Read Matthew 1:1-16 and Luke 1:26-55.

Share an occasion in your life where you had to demonstrate courage _____

Please look up these verses and answer the following questions before October 25th:

1. Read Matthew 1:1-16. Why is Mary so remarkable? What does verse 1 reveal? _____

- What do we learn about Mary from verse 16? _____

2. Read Luke 1:26-38. What do you learn about Mary through her interaction with the angel?

- Who delivered God's message to Mary (v.26)? _____
- According to verses 31-33, what was about to occur? _____
- Re-read Luke 1:35. How would it take place? _____

- In verse 38, Mary responds with a level of acceptance that might shock most women. What does this one simple line reveal about her heart and her relationship with God? _____

3. Read Luke 1:39-45. As a refresher, note Elizabeth's age? _____

- How did the older Elizabeth encourage the younger Mary in verses 42-45? _____

4. How did Mary's passion display itself in Luke 1:46-55 in her "song"? _____

5. What do you feel is the greatest challenge in yielding or surrendering to God's will? _____

- In terms of the need to surrender to God, respond to the following quote, "Courage always demands an element of leaving, and leaving is always hard!"

6. Look up Psalm 123:2, it is a reference to a handmaiden and her relationship with her mistress. What did the handmaiden do? _____

- How do you see Mary as "the maidservant of the Lord"? _____

- How do her words demonstrate the heart of a handmaiden? _____

Going Further
(Additional study)

If you would like to learn more about Mary, read Luke 2:1-7.

- What difficulties did Mary encounter during her birth experience? _____

How did God work everything out regarding:

- Joseph _____

- The timing of the tax _____
 - The place of birth (also read Micah 5:2) _____
 - The birth itself _____
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Now read Luke 2:8-20

- What group of people were the first to know of the Messiah's birth? _____
 - What did they get to hear first? (vs. 13-18)? _____
 - How did the others there respond? (v.18)? _____
 - How did Mary respond (v.19)? _____
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Also read Luke 2:25-35.

- What kind of man was Simeon? (v.25) _____
 - Where did Simeon meet Mary and Joseph? (v.27) _____
 - Why was he so joyful? (vs. 28-32) _____
 - What note of sorrow did he share with Mary? (v.35) _____
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