

Life Group Notes & Discussion Guide, December 21st, 2025

“The King is Coming”

“The Good News Confirmed”

Sermon Text: **Luke 1:39-56**; Old Testament Text: **Isaiah 9:1-2, 6-7**; New Testament Text: **Romans 1:16-17**.

Read **Luke 1:39-56** while listening to the sermon, then answer the questions below.

1. Read **Luke 1:39-40**. Why was the journey from Nazareth to the hill country of Judea considered a difficult and somewhat dangerous journey? (This is not in the Bible. Pr. Dave explained it.)

Why could Mary make this journey with confidence? (This is not in the Bible. Pr. Dave explained it.)

To what was Luke referring when he said *in those days*?

2. Read **Luke 1:41-45**. Why was Elizabeth’s response to Mary’s greeting so unexpected?

How did Elizabeth know the information she was speaking to Mary?

What did Elizabeth say her baby within her had done when she’d heard Mary’s greeting?

Why were these words spoken by Elizabeth so important to Mary?

3. Read **Luke 1:46-56**. How did Mary react after she’d heard Elizabeth’s greeting?

In **Luke 1:46**, what did Mary mean when she said, “*My soul magnifies the Lord?*”

When you read **Luke 1:47**, what is the best description of Mary you can give based on

this verse?

How would you paraphrase what Mary said in **Luke 1:48-49**?

Why is the message in **Luke 1:50** so important?

Can you think of biblical examples that illustrate what is stated in **Luke 1:51-53**?

What is Mary referring to in **Luke 1:54-55**?

How long did Mary stay with Elizabeth?

How do you think those three months with Elizabeth and Zechariah helped to prepare Mary for what was ahead of her?

4. What will you remember most from this message?

Discussion Guide for Your Life Group Meeting

- I. At your Life Group meeting, first read **Isaiah 9:1-2, 6-7** aloud. It can be helpful to have several people each read one verse from their Bible. This helps people feel involved and can also introduce some interesting discussion if several translations are used. After reading the passage discuss it. If you are having trouble stimulating discussion, you can try asking some of the following questions:
1. Read **Isaiah 9:1**. What was it that brought *gloom and anguish to the land of Zebulun and the land of Naphtali*?
 2. What will happen to *make glorious the way of the sea*?
 3. Read **Isaiah 9:2**. How did Jesus bring light to the darkness? (Be specific. Tell various things Jesus did to shine light in the darkness.)
 4. Read **Isaiah 9:6**. How does the statement *For to us a child is born, to us a son is given* describe the dual nature of Christ?
 5. In **Isaiah 9:6**, it says, *and the government shall be upon his shoulder*. What else do we typically think of being laid upon Christ's shoulders?
 6. How would that translate into *the government shall be upon his shoulder*?
 7. Four names are given for Jesus in **Isaiah 9:6**. Describe what these names mean to you.
 8. Which of these names is most meaningful to you? Which name is the hardest for you to apply to Jesus?
 9. Read **Isaiah 9:7**. Why shall there *be no end to the increase of his government and of peace*?
 10. If Christ's kingdom is to *be established and upheld with justice & righteousness*, how must we live to inherit it?
- II. Next read **Romans 1:16-18**, utilizing several group members to each read one verse aloud. After reading the passage discuss it. If you are having trouble stimulating discussion, you can try asking some of the following questions:
1. Read **Romans 1:16**. Why do you think Paul felt compelled to write *for I am not ashamed of the gospel*?
 2. What does Paul tell us the gospel contains?
 3. Have there ever been times in your life when you have been *ashamed of the gospel*? Explain.
 4. Read **Romans 1:17**. What does this verse mean to you?
 5. Read **Romans 1:18**. How does the *unrighteousness of men suppress the truth*?
 6. Can you think of times when *your unrighteousness has suppressed the truth*? Explain.
- III. Read **Luke 1:39-56**, utilizing several group members to each read one verse aloud. After reading the passage discuss it. If you are having trouble stimulating discussion, you can try asking some of the following questions:

1. Read **Luke 1:39-40**. Why was the journey from Nazareth to the hill country of Judea considered a difficult and somewhat dangerous journey? (This is not in the Bible. Pr. Dave explained it.)
2. Why could Mary make this journey with confidence? (This is not in the Bible. Pr. Dave explained it.)
3. To what was Luke referring when he said *in those days*?
4. Read **Luke 1:41-45**. Why was Elizabeth's response to Mary's greeting so unexpected?
5. How did Elizabeth know the information she was speaking to Mary?
6. What did Elizabeth say her baby within her had done when she'd heard Mary's greeting?
7. Why were these words spoken by Elizabeth so important to Mary?
8. Read **Luke 1:46-56**. How did Mary react after she'd heard Elizabeth's greeting?
9. In **Luke 1:46**, what did Mary mean when she said, "*My soul magnifies the Lord?*"
10. When you read **Luke 1:47**, what is the best description of Mary you can give based on this verse?
11. How would you paraphrase what Mary said in **Luke 1:48-49**?
12. Why is the message in **Luke 1:50** so important?
13. Can you think of biblical examples that illustrate what is stated in **Luke 1:51-53**?
14. What is Mary referring to in **Luke 1:54-55**?
15. How long did Mary stay with Elizabeth?
16. How do you think those three months with Elizabeth and Zechariah helped to prepare Mary for what was ahead of her?