



## Where Do You Find Joy? [Luke 1:26-56]

### I. God's Message [1:26-38]

"The Greek word *Evangelion* (the gospel) signifies good, merry, and glad tidings of great joy, that make a person's heart *exuberant*." - William Tyndale

### II. God's Mission [1:39-45]

"The great principle of "incarnational mission" (teaches us that)...the ministry of Jesus was one of involvement, not detachment; and therefore we must face the fact that we cannot minister to a lost world if we are not in it." - Alistair Begg

### III. God's Miracles and Mercy [1:46-51]

"Once a person has truly experienced the mercy of God in their life they will *from that moment* aspire only to serve *Him*." - Dietrich Bonhoeffer

### IV. God's Might [Power] and Mercy [1:52-55]

"The present and the future must be understood in light of God's merciful intervention and faithfulness in the past . . . Mary finds her way in these moments because she reads the signs of the past *correctly*. The same is true of Zechariah, who also interprets the birth of his son in terms of the promises to David (1:69) and Abraham (1:72-73). The covenant with Abraham is a reminder that God's mercy will extend not only to every generation but to all people." - ECNT

**Luke 1:39-45** In those days Mary arose and went with haste into the hill country, to a town in Judah, <sup>40</sup> and she entered the house of Zechariah and greeted Elizabeth. <sup>41</sup> And when Elizabeth heard the greeting of Mary, the baby leaped in her womb. And Elizabeth was filled with the Holy Spirit, [Luke 1:15, 67] <sup>42</sup> and she exclaimed with a loud cry, "Blessed are you among women, and blessed is the fruit of your womb! [Deuteronomy 28:4; Psalm 127:3] <sup>43</sup> And why is this granted to me that the mother of my Lord should come to me? <sup>44</sup> For behold, when the sound of your greeting came to my ears, the baby in my womb leaped for joy. <sup>45</sup> And blessed is she who believed that there would be a fulfillment of what was spoken to her from the Lord."

**Luke 1:46-51** And Mary said, "My soul magnifies the Lord, [I Samuel 2:1-10; Psalm 34:2-3; 69:30] <sup>47</sup> and my spirit rejoices in God my Savior, [Isaiah 61:10a; Habakkuk 3:18; Acts 16:34; Titus 3:4-7; Jude 24-25] <sup>48</sup> for He has looked on the humble estate of his servant. [Psalm 138:6] For behold, from now on all generations will call me blessed; <sup>49</sup> for He who is mighty [Psalm 89:8, Zephaniah 3:17] has done great things for me, [Psalm 71:19, 126:2-3] and holy is His name. [Psalm 99:3, 111:9; Isaiah 57:15] <sup>50</sup> And His mercy is for those who fear him from generation to generation. [Psalm 89:1-2, 103:17] <sup>51</sup> He has shown strength with his arm; [Psalm 89:10, 98:1, 118:14-16; Isaiah 51:9] he has scattered the proud in the thoughts of their hearts; [Daniel 4:37; James 4:6]

**Luke 1:52-56** He has brought down the mighty from their thrones [Psalm 98:1] and exalted those of humble estate; [Job 5:11, Psalm 107:41a, 113:7-8, Ezekiel 21:24-27, James 4:10] <sup>53</sup> He has filled the hungry with good things, [Psalm 34:10b, 107:9, Luke 6:21a, Luke 6:24-25] and the rich he has sent away empty. <sup>54</sup> He has helped [Isaiah 41:8-9] His servant Israel, [Isaiah 44:21, 49:3] in remembrance of his mercy, [Psalm 98:3] <sup>55</sup> as he spoke to our fathers, [Genesis 17:19, Psalm 132:11, Galatians 3:16] to Abraham and to his offspring forever." [Micah 7:20; Luke 1:72-73]

### Study Questions/Prayer

- [1] Read Luke 1:39-45. What roles does the Holy Spirit play in these verses?
- [2] Read Luke 1:46-49. Consider the importance of God's mercy in these verses focusing on Mary's personal experience [46-47], generational impact [48], and God's divine attributes and acts [49-51].
- [3] Read the quotes from William Tyndale, Alistair Begg, and Dietrich Bonhoeffer in the outline. How do their perspectives enhance our understanding of God's message, mission, and mercy as seen in Luke 1?
- [4] Pray thanking God for the joy that comes from your relationship with Him, and for the confidence to joyfully share the good news with others that transformed your life.