

Family Theme | **Lessons From the Life of Mary (Mother of Jesus)** Date | **December 15, 2024**
Study Text | **Various Scriptures From Luke 1; Matthew 1; and Luke 2**

Read the Word: Various Scriptures From Luke 1; Matthew 1; and Luke 2

Disciple Your Family: Discuss how to put life lessons from Mary into action.

Discuss the following Key Events and Life Lessons. Use the questions to spark discussion.



Key Event 1: Mary Was Humble (Luke 1:26-38)



Key Event 2: Mary Was Blessed and Worshipful (Luke 1:39-56)



Key Event 3: Mary Was Vindicated (Matthew 1:18-25)



Key Event 4: Mary Was Sorrowful and Contemplative (Luke 2:22-35; Luke 2:1-21, 41-52)

Life Lessons From Mary (Mother of Jesus)

Life Lesson 1: Like Mary, humbly submit to whatever God calls you to do.

- Why is humility an important quality for believers?
- What would it look like for you to humbly submit to God?

Life Lesson 2: Be actively involved in your church family where you can bless and encourage others and be blessed and encouraged in return.

- How would you characterize the relationship between Elizabeth and Mary? How did Elizabeth bless and encourage Mary?
- How can church members bless and encourage each other?

Life Lesson 3: Regularly praise and worship God for His goodness and blessings to you.

- How do you express worship to God in times of deep blessing?
- In what ways can our worship go beyond music and what happens on Sunday mornings?

Life Lesson 4: God sometimes directs His people to tasks that others will not understand.

- When has God directed you, or someone you know, to do something that didn't seem to make sense at the time?

- *How should we respond to people who push back against what God has called us to do?*

Life Lesson 5: Don't be surprised to experience pain and sorrow even when following God's will.

- *Why is there pain and sorrow in the world? How does God use it for good? (There is pain and sorrow because we live in a fallen, sinful world; God causes every situation to work out for good for His people; He uses difficulty and suffering to develop our character and to accomplish His purposes; etc.)*
- *No one enjoys going through pain and suffering. As Christians, how should we view suffering? How can we suffer well?*

Life Lesson 6: Ponder and meditate on God's Word and what He is teaching you.

- *Why should we ponder and meditate on God's Word and what He is teaching us? (It allows the Holy Spirit to work in us and give us deeper understanding; etc.)*
- *Silence is in rare supply in today's world. What does it look like to be silent before God? Why is this needed?*

Build a Foundation: Discussion questions for elementary students.

- How was Elizabeth an encouragement to Mary?
- What can you learn from Mary's constant praise to God for the different things happening in her life?
- Why was Mary's strong faith so important as she learned of her pregnancy as well as when she watched her Child suffer and die on the cross?

Work together to memorize the Verse of the Month: **John 3:16**



Discuss This Week's Building Block:

Mary was a young girl chosen by God who deserves our respect, but only God deserves our worship.

Everyday Extras:

Ask family members to share about a time when they were chosen for something special, recognized for something they did, or received an achievement. Suggestions include being the student of the week, being the line leader in school, receiving an award, praised for making right choices, etc.). Talk about how he or she felt (proud, embarrassed, excited, etc.). God chose Mary for a special job, and she did it well. We can serve God well with whatever He chooses for us to do.

Preschool Highlights:

Today your child learned an angel visited Mary and Joseph to tell them about God's special gift. The angel told them to name the baby *Jesus*. This special gift from God would save the people from their sins. **Jesus Is a Special Gift** from God to show His love for us, and He is the reason we celebrate Christmas.