

STAY CONNECTED!

Looking for a Life Group or just want to keep up to date with the latest on Every Nation Brisbane's events or podcasts?

Download the free app and stay connected.
Available on the *Apple App Store* and *Google Play*.



EVERY NATION
BRISBANE

© 2021 by EVERY NATION BRISBANE®

All rights reserved.

Scripture quotations are from The Holy Bible, English Standard Version® (ESV®), Copyright © 2001 by Crossway, a publishing ministry of Good News Publishers. Used by permission. All rights reserved.

Permission to photocopy this material is granted for local church use. This is not for sale.

www.enbrisbane.org



PRAYER

Lord, you know us inside out. You know we doubt. Sometimes we can't see what is right before us and all around us. Yet, you still open our eyes to truth and pave the way so that there would be signs through prophecies that would point to your coming. You will fulfill every single one of them. Oh, Lord, we praise you! Thank you for those providing for our faith in such a beautiful way. In the name of Yeshua (Jesus), we pray, Amen.

WARM UP (OPTIONAL)

Can you remember hearing good news when you were younger? What was the news and how did you respond?

NOTES

WORD

²⁶ In the sixth month, the angel Gabriel was sent from God to a city of Galilee named Nazareth, ²⁷ to a virgin betrothed to a man whose name was Joseph, of the house of David. And the virgin's name was Mary. ²⁸ And he came to her and said, "Greetings, O favored one, the Lord is with you!" ²⁹ But she was greatly troubled at the saying, and tried to discern what sort of greeting this might be.

³⁰ And the angel said to her, "Do not be afraid, Mary, for you have found favor with God. ³¹ And behold, you will conceive in your womb and bear a son, and you shall call his name Jesus. ³² He will be great and will be called the Son of the Most High. And the Lord God will give to him the throne of his father David, ³³ and he will reign over the house of Jacob forever, and of his kingdom, there will be no end." ³⁴ And Mary said to the angel, "How will this be, since I am a virgin?" ³⁵ And the angel answered her, "The Holy Spirit will come upon you, and the power of the Most High will overshadow you; therefore the child to be born will be called holy—the Son of God.

[LUKE 1:26-35](#)

Mary's response to God's tremendous news is different this time because Mary heard the faith-filled words of the messenger through verses [30-33](#):

1. **Do not be afraid, Mary, for you have found favor with God.**
2. **You will conceive in your womb and bear a son.**
3. **You shall call his name Jesus.**
4. **He will be great and will be called the Son of the Most High.**
5. **The Lord God will give to him the throne of his father David and he will reign over the house of Jacob forever, and of his kingdom, there will be no end.**

The messenger instills confidence in Mary by encouraging her "not to be afraid" and by repeating to Mary that she is "favored" by God. Additionally, the messenger gives exciting and hopeful promises that Mary will conceive and bear the Son of God, "God's Salvation," who will be the fulfillment of many prophecies and will reign forever. The logical question that Mary asks can also be helpful to us. When God gives us a message and invites us into his call, we can ask God practical and logical questions: How will this be, since I am . . . ? We can see that Mary's heart and posture shifted from fear/distress ([v. 29](#)) to faith.

By Jonathan Zee (Every Nation Yokohama)

GUIDE QUESTIONS

(NUMBERED ACCORDING TO LEVEL OF DEPTH AND READINESS TO SHARE)

1. On a scale of 1-10 (1 = never, 10 = always), how often do you run to God *first* when you are faced with difficulty and uncertainty? Why have you rated yourself this way?
2. The name "Jesus" in Greek is *Iésous*, literally meaning, "Joshua." Joshua in Hebrew is, "Yehoshua." "Yehoshua" is comprised of "Yhww" (God) and "Yasha" (to deliver), thus meaning, "Yahweh saves" or "Yahweh is salvation". Do you believe that God saves? Do you believe that he has saved you? Why or why not?
3. In verse 27, the scripture highlights that Jesus is from the lineage of King David, and then in verses 32 to 33, Gabriel speaks of the identity of Jesus as "great," as the "Son of the Most High," as the one that will have "the throne of his father David", and who will "reign over the house of Jacob forever." Why do you think this is important?
4. When we are in awe of God's awesomeness, we should respond like Mary: "I am your servant. How can I be part of God's salvation for the world?" If you have experienced the awesomeness of God, have you also been a part of bringing God's salvation to the world? If so, encourage others by sharing how God has utilised you. If not, would you like to?

If you do not yet have a relationship with God, would you like to have one? Ask your Life Group leader to lead you in prayer to receive Christ. You can pray this prayer with them:

Dear Lord Jesus, I know that I am a sinner, and I ask for your forgiveness. I believe you died for my sins and rose from the dead. I turn from my sins and invite you to come into my heart and life. I want to trust and follow you as my Lord and Saviour. In Jesus' name, Amen.