

Mary's Story
Luke 1:26-38

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NOTES

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Suggested Questions for Individual
Study or Group Discussion*



- Who is Gabriel? Look up Daniel 9:20-23 and Luke 1:19. What do you learn about this angel, and what do you imagine Gabriel to be like?
- Read Luke 1:26-38. Gabriel calls Mary “favored one” and says to her, “you have found favor with God.” What is “favor”? How does the favor that Mary finds with God contrast with the favors/fortunes valued in this world (importance, power, wealth, honor, etc.)?
- Mary asks in verse 34, “How can this be...?” Compare her question with Zechariah’s question in Luke 1:18, “How will I know that this is so?” Why do you think Mary’s and Zechariah’s queries elicit different responses from the angel Gabriel?
- In verse 37, Gabriel declares, “For nothing is impossible with God.” How does this declaration bring comfort, or alternatively how might it be frustrating to you this Advent?
- What do you think about Mary’s understanding of Gabriel’s mention of the Holy Spirit in verse 35? What is your experience and hopes of the Holy Spirit hovering over you and over the chaos of this world (see Genesis 1)? What is the power of the Holy Spirit like?
- **For Family Discussion:** Listen to Josh Garrels’ track “The Virgin Mary had One Son” (track 3 on the album): <https://joshgarrels.bandcamp.com/album/the-light-came-down> Talk about all the names of Mary’s Son: Jesus, Savior, New born King. What’s your favorite name for Jesus this week?

*Select or adapt questions to fit the needs and makeup of your group.