

QUESTIONS FOR DISCUSSION

1. How did Elisabeth become filled with the Holy Spirit?
2. What did the entrance of the Holy Spirit do to Elisabeth?
3. How would you characterize Mary?
4. How does this lesson demonstrate that God does everything in a complete and planned way?
5. What conclusions can we draw from this lesson?

SUMMARY:

Mary was in submission to the Holy Spirit when she conversed with the angel. Mary arose and went to Elisabeth, who was bearing the “forerunner to Christ.” As Mary and Elisabeth exchanged salutation, the babe leaped in the womb of Elisabeth.

Mary was chosen to bear the Son of God and the Savior of the world. The dedication which Mary demonstrated was flawless and without reservations. Her purity and humility is a prime example for us in serving God and others.

NOTES:

APOSTOLIC CHRISTIAN CHURCH

Bible Lesson #3

October 19, 2003

Fourth Quarter

MARY'S VISIT TO ELISABETH

LESSON TEXT: Luke 1:39-56

LESSON SETTING: In the city of Judah

TIME: Approximately 5 or 6 B.C.

I. ELISABETH'S INSPIRED GREETING. Luke 1:39-45

- A. Spirit led - Luke 4:1; Acts 11:24; 13:52
- B. Inspiration (vs. 42) Job 32:8; Matthew 10:19; 1 Corinthians 2:13
- C. Divine Accomplishment - Mark 2:10; John 17:3; Acts 10:38

II. MARY'S INSPIRED RESPONSE. Luke 1:46-50

- A. Glorification - Matthew 5:16; John 15:8
- B. Gratitude - Ruth 2:10; Luke 19:37
- C. Humility - Genesis 32:10; 1 Corinthians 1:27-29

III. GOD'S SOVEREIGN PURPOSE. Luke 1:51-56

- A. Spiritual Fulfillment. John 15:11; Colossians 1:1-9
- B. God's Mercy - Psalm 108:4; Micah 7:18
- C. Divine Faithfulness - Esther 3:3; 1 Corinthians 1:9

GOLDEN TEXT: AND MARY SAID, BEHOLD THE HANDMAID OF THE LORD BE IT UNTO ME ACCORDING TO THY WORD. AND THE ANGEL DEPARTED FROM HER.
Luke 1:38

NEXT SUNDAY'S LESSON: Luke 1:57-80

SUPPLEMENTAL REFERENCES: Isaiah 40:1-8; Malachi 3:1-6

QUARTERLY THEME: Christ the Son of Man

TOPIC: BIRTH OF JOHN THE BAPTIST

INTRODUCTION:

The birth of John the Baptist illustrated the faithfulness of God in keeping His promises. Not only was the promise given to his parents fulfilled, but also the prophecy of the coming of the "voice of him that crieth in the wilderness." (Isaiah 40:3) Also, through Zacharias, God renewed His promise of a redeemer in the house of David. God was long in fulfilling His promise which was first made to Adam and Eve, later to Abraham, and at various times through His prophets, being no less faithful. God waits until the right time.

His faithfulness to us today is just as sure. "Being confident of this very thing, that he which hath begun a good work in you will perform it until the day of Jesus Christ." (Philippians 1:6) Certainly, faith cometh by hearing, and to hear or read of God's faithfulness to various Bible characters and in sending a Savior should strengthen our faith in Him.

CENTRAL TRUTH: God wants to use us to prepare the way for the Savior.

GOLDEN TEXT: FOR THOU SHALT GO BEFORE THE FACE OF THE LORD TO PREPARE HIS WAYS.

Luke 1:76

The coming of a Messiah was not new to God's people - it had been prophesied many centuries before Christ's coming. On the other hand, His coming was new. The people needed to know that Christ's coming was not in the distant future, but that the Kingdom of Heaven was at hand. The people needed to be prepared by humbling themselves and turning from sin. John the Baptist was sent to prepare the Way for Christ by giving knowledge of salvation.

To many people today the message of Christ is not new, and yet it is new. Many have heard His name preached, but they don't understand that He is from above and not of this world. They don't really understand that Christ gives salvation by the remission of sin. The task of preparing hearts for Christ is necessary today. Children must learn about the Lord in preparation for the time when Christ will call them to commit their lives unto Him. Adults who don't know Christ must be made aware of the necessity to seek the Lord for salvation.

DAILY BIBLE READINGS FOR THE WEEK OF October 20 - 26

M. John's Voice. Isaiah 40:1-8

T. John Questions. Matthew 11:1-6

W. John Exalted. Matthew 11:7-19

T. *John Born. Luke 1:57-80

F. John's Ministry. Luke 3:3-14

S. John's Imprisonment. Luke 7:19-23

S. John's Death. Luke 9:7-9