

Session 01

The Promised **MESSIAH**

CENTRAL TRUTH | Jesus, the promised Messiah, was sent to save humanity.

When was the last time you heard something that left you feeling really confused? When we can't shake the confusion we feel, we risk becoming frustrated or even numb. In this week's session, we'll read the angel Gabriel's confusing message to Mary, the mother of Jesus. As we read Luke 1:26-38 this week, we won't see Mary get frustrated, become numb, or refuse to believe the message; instead, we'll see her sink deeper into her faith as she chooses to trust God. Through Mary, God sent Jesus, the promised Messiah, to save humanity.

REFLECT

What questions do I have about God?

What questions do I have about myself?

What questions do I have about the world and those around me?

LUKE 1:26-30

²⁶ In the sixth month, the angel Gabriel was sent by God to a town in Galilee called Nazareth, ²⁷ to a virgin engaged to a man named Joseph, of the house of David. The virgin's name was Mary. ²⁸ And the angel came to her and said, "Greetings, favored woman!

The Lord is with you." ²⁹ But she was deeply troubled by this statement, wondering what kind of greeting this could be. ³⁰ Then the angel told her, "Do not be afraid, Mary, for you have found favor with God.

LUKE 1:31-33

³¹ Now listen: You will conceive and give birth to a son, and you will name him Jesus. ³² He will be great and will be called the Son of the Most High, and the Lord God will give him the throne

of his father David. ³³ He will reign over the house of Jacob forever, and his kingdom will have no end."

LUKE 1:34-38

³⁴ Mary asked the angel, "How can this be, since I have not had sexual relations with a man?" ³⁵ The angel replied to her, "The Holy Spirit will come upon you, and the power of the Most High will overshadow you. Therefore, the holy one to be born will be called the Son of God. ³⁶ And consider your relative

Elizabeth — even she has conceived a son in her old age, and this is the sixth month for her who was called childless. ³⁷ For nothing will be impossible with God." ³⁸ "See, I am the Lord's servant," said Mary. "May it happen to me as you have said." Then the angel left her.

Day01

2 SAMUEL 7:12-13



Refer to page 5 for a description of the 7 Arrows of Bible Reading.

📍 READ & RESPOND

This week, we examined Mary's encounter with an angel who told her that the promised Messiah was coming and that she would give birth to Him. Centuries earlier, King David had received a similar promise: The Messiah would come through his family line and establish an everlasting kingdom. He probably didn't expect a young girl from Nazareth would be the final piece of the puzzle. Though we may not foresee how events will unfold in our own lives, we can wait with hope and anticipation. Jesus fulfilled God's promise to David, and while it may not happen the way we expect, we can trust in God to accomplish His promises.

← How do you think David and the Israelites of his time understood these promises?

↑ How has God answered your prayers in surprising ways?

→ How does this passage encourage patience and reliance on God's timing?

📍 MEMORIZE

Copy **Luke 1:32** onto three to five note cards and tape them in places you see every day, like the bathroom mirror, your closet, or the back of your phone. Every time you see one of these cards, read it to yourself or out loud.

📍 PRAY

Heavenly Father, You are faithful and good, and I know that I can trust You to fulfill Your promises. Thank You for sending Your Son, the Messiah, to save me.

Day02

LUKE 1:26-30

📍 READ & RESPOND

Mary was “deeply troubled” by the angel’s news (see Luke 1:29). God often works in unexpected ways, interrupting our plans with something much bigger than we could imagine. Everyone experiences interruptions, and when they occur, it’s helpful to remember Mary. She chose to trust God even when the news from the angel was likely daunting and confusing. Trust that these things that seem like interruptions are the way in which God grows us, and respond with faith and courage.

→ What “interruptions” might God be sending your way? Are you open to His surprising plans, even when they seem overwhelming?

↑ What does this passage reveal about God’s character and how He interacts with ordinary people?

↓ What does Mary’s first response reveal about our human tendency to react when God’s plans aren’t the same as our plans?

📍 MEMORIZE

Create a graphic of **Luke 1:32** using a photo editor app. Set this graphic as your background or lock screen this week.

📍 PRAY

King of kings, when You call me out of my ordinary life to do something extraordinary for Your kingdom, help me to recognize Your will and give me the courage to follow You.

Day 03

LUKE 1:31-33

 READ & RESPOND

The angel adds another important detail: Mary's baby is to be a King whose "kingdom will have no end." Jesus would establish an eternal kingdom, far grander than any human empire. Following Jesus means not just following a set of rules but recognizing Him as an eternal King who wants to affect every part of our life—thoughts, choices, words, even social media activities. This can seem at odds with society's focus on immediate rewards and fleeting joys. But remember, the eternal nature of Jesus's kingdom can provide perspective, purpose, meaning, and lasting hope. Being part of His eternal kingdom is everything.



How does the angel describe Jesus, and what does he promise about Jesus's kingdom?



How might the Israelites have misunderstood the promises of an everlasting kingdom?



How does this passage challenge you to consider Jesus's authority over your daily choices, habits, and priorities, even when they conflict with what's popular or easy?

 MEMORIZE

Create a "mind map." Write **Luke 1:32** in the center of a piece of paper, and around it, write at least five write key words, concepts, or images related to the verse.

 PRAY

Heavenly Father, thank You for sending King Jesus, whose eternal reign gives purpose and hope to my life. Help me surrender every part of my heart to Him, living each day as a citizen of His forever kingdom.

Day04

LUKE 1:34-38

📍 READ & RESPOND

From a human perspective, it was absolutely impossible for Mary to be pregnant. But what's impossible for humans is just another day for God. Gabriel's answer is packed with God's power. Mary's response in verse 38 is beautiful: "See, I am the Lord's servant. . . . May it happen to me as you have said." She didn't fully understand how, but she trusted who. When you face a challenge that feels too big, a dream that seems out of reach, or a problem with no clear solution, remember that God specializes in the impossible.

↓ What does this passage reveal about our natural tendency to rely on our own understanding or logic, even when God is at work?

→ How does Mary's response in Luke 1:38 challenge you to trust God's power over your own doubts or questions?

↻ How can you pray right now, asking God to intervene in a situation in your life or in the lives of those you care about, where only His power can bring a breakthrough?

📍 MEMORIZE

Use a notes app on your phone and create a quick reference note for **Luke 1:32**. Set yourself a reminder to look at it a couple of times each day.

📍 PRAY

Gracious God, thank You for being the God of the impossible, whose power knows no limits. Help me surrender my desire for the "how" and trust in You alone.

Day 05

COLOSSIANS 1:13

READ & RESPOND

Before Jesus, we were lost in the darkness, separated from God by sin and without any hope. But God, in His incredible love, didn't leave us there. He launched a rescue mission, sending Jesus, His beloved Son, to save us. Jesus didn't just point the way out; He pulled us out of that darkness. He took on our sin, broke its power, and opened a way for us to be brought into His kingdom—a place of light, life, and loving relationship with God. We can't work or earn our way into this relationship. This mission was a pure act of grace initiated by God because He loved us. When you feel overwhelmed by the darkness of the world or your struggles, remember: Jesus was sent specifically to save you, to pull you into His amazing light.

↻ Where has God moved us from and to?

↑ What does this passage reveal about God's character, initiative, love, and power?

↓ What does this passage suggest about our ability or inability to save ourselves?

MEMORIZE

Write **Luke 1:32** five times on a piece of paper. Use a different color pen or marker for all of the nouns (the people, places, and things).

PRAY

Thank You, Heavenly Father, for rescuing us from darkness and bringing us into the glorious kingdom of Your Son, Jesus. May we live each day in the light of Your love, faithfully reflecting our new citizenship.