

Community Group Study Guide

Sermon Series - Signposts

Sermon Date - Dec 20

Sermon Passage - Luke 1:26-45

Warm-up:

1. Who do you call first when you have good news to share? Why?
2. Tell of time when you were fearful, but believing. How did God meet you in that time?

Observe: In this section, our goal is to determine what the text says.

Read Luke 1:26-38, 39-45

1. What is the setting for these two passages?
2. What are the key words or phrases you see in this passage ?
3. How is Mary first described? How about Joseph? Why is this important?
4. Are there any promises in the text? What are they?
5. Are there any explicit exhortations in the text? What are they?
6. What is the key theme you see in this passage?

Interpret: In this section, our goal is to determine what the text means.

1. Based on this passage, what can we learn about Mary? What can we learn about her character?
2. Do you feel Mary's question in v34 is indicative of doubt? Why or why not?
3. What was the role of the angel in this passage?
4. What are the roles of the Holy Spirit in this passage?
5. How is Jesus described by the angel?
6. What are some of the phrases Elizabeth uses to describe Mary?
7. What does the word "blessed" mean to you?
8. How would Elizabeth's greeting have encouraged Mary?
9. What are some of the emotions that you believe Mary must have been feeling?

Apply: In this section, our goal is to determine how to integrate what you've studied into your life.

1. Look at verse 38 again. What do you make of Mary's response? Are you a willing participant in God's plans on Earth?
2. Look at verse 45 again. Do you live a life that reflects belief in what God has said or asked you to do?

For use the week of December 13-19

3. Are there any areas in your life that do not line up with God's teaching in this passage? What has God been saying to you during this time?
4. What changes do you feel you need to make in your life?
5. What are some practical steps you can take in the next week to make these changes?
6. How can your group encourage you? How can you encourage others?
7. How can this group pray for you?