

December 15, 2019

Being Expectant of Jesus

Things to Ponder This Week

### Introduction

(Luke 1:26-38)

Last Sunday, we saw how God chose Mary, a v\_\_\_\_\_, and a descendant of David, to be the mother of the Christ. We saw how the t\_\_\_\_\_ of Christ's coming was in line with the coming of the promised Forerunner, John the Baptist. We also saw how Mary responded to Gabriel's message by humbly t\_\_\_\_\_ in, and submitting herself to God.

### A Spirit-Filled Response

(Luke 1:39-45; Luke 1:15)

E\_\_\_\_\_, and John in her womb, prompted by the Holy Spirit, rejoiced in hearing Mary's greeting. Mary was lauded for her faith, and her faith gave way to p\_\_\_\_\_ unto God.

### A Joyful Song

(Luke 1:46-56)

Mary declares how magnificent God is by expressing:

- the \_\_\_\_ she feels in her heart
- what God has done for her in b\_\_\_\_\_ her
- how God is h\_\_\_\_\_, and how kind He is to the humble

### A Hopeful Life

(John 3:16; Romans 8:14-25)

As Mary humbly responded to God's g\_\_\_\_\_ choosing of her to be the mother of the Christ, we too can respond to God's gracious choosing of us, and declare how magnificent He is! As the first century Jews awaited and saw the coming of the promised Christ, Jesus, the Son of God, we too await and look forward to Jesus' return with e\_\_\_\_\_.

Based on Luke 1:39-45, what prompted Elizabeth to declare what she did regarding Mary? What did Elizabeth say was the reason for Mary being blessed? What can we learn from this passage of how we should respond to God's good news to us? Take time to thank God for His many blessings to you.

Based on Luke 1:46-47, what was Mary's response to God based on the joy she had in Him? Based on Luke 1:48-49a, what did Mary say about her condition before God, and what God has done for her? Based on Luke 1:49b-55, what did Mary declare regarding God, and His mercy toward those who fear Him? Prayerfully read 1 Samuel 2:1-10, and consider the similarities between Hannah's prayer and Mary's song. How has God shown His mercy toward you, and how can you express your gratitude to Him for all that He has done for you?

Based on Luke 1:56, how long did Mary stay with Elizabeth? Why do you think this specific timing was important?

Next Sunday, we will celebrate our Christmas Sunday together. Prayerfully read Luke 2:1-20, and consider all that took place on the occasion of Christ Jesus' birth.