

LUKE 1:46-56

29 OCTOBER 2023

ICE BREAKER: During worship, what helps you move from just singing to worship?

LARGE GROUP QUESTIONS:

This passage is the song of worship Mary voiced to magnify God. It is famously known as “The Magnificat”—Latin meaning “to glorify”. Mary glorifies and gives credit only to the Lord. Every verse points to **who God is** and **what He has done**. There is **no mention** of Mary’s virtues or winsome character, except that she is a “**servant**”. Mary’s words capture the heart of worship.

1. How do Mary’s words capture the **heart** of Christian **worship**?

(Read verses 51-53) Our world **values** the **confident** and **outspoken**—those who sound like they know what they are doing. It values **rulers** and those in **high position**—those with power. It values and copies the behavior and fashion of the **rich** and **famous**.

However, Mary declares that God **values** the **opposite**. He is “**mindful** of **servants**” (48), and **scatters** “those who are **proud**” (51). “He has **brought down rulers** from their thrones, but has **lifted up** the **humble** (52)”. “He has **filled** the **hungry** with good things but has **sent** the **rich away empty** (53).”

2. How do you see the war, between what **God values** and what the **world values**, play out in **your life**?

(Read verse 46-49) Mary was **amazed** that the God of the universe was “**mindful** of the humble state of his **servant**.” God was mindful of her, a servant girl. In effect, Mary testifies to these truths. God **sees** us. He sees us **where we are at**. He sees us in our **poverty**—all those areas where we are poor. Not only does He see us, He is doing something about it.

He is preparing to **bless us** so that with Mary we may also testify, “From now on all generations will call me **blessed** for the Mighty One has done **great things** for **me**—holy is His name.”

3. What are the **poor areas in your life** you sense **God** wanting to **do great things**?

(Read verse 46) The Lord called Mary to the most **extraordinary calling** ever given to mankind—to become the **mother** of God’s own Son. Think of how **incredible** that calling is. How do you raise God’s Son in your home? All the hosts of heaven watch your every move, knowing the fate of mankind is being determined in your home! Also, imagine the inevitable **gossip** and **ridicule** surrounding your claim to be pregnant from God Himself.

So how does Mary respond? She **sings**. She worships the Lord proclaiming, “My soul **glorifies** the Lord and my spirit **rejoices** in God my Savior!” In the face of God’s most incredible calling upon her life, Mary blesses God for choosing her and rejoices. She **does not worry** about **what other people think**. She rejoices and praises the Lord for choosing her.

4. How can **Mary’s response** help you face God’s **challenging call on your life**, or **ridicule from others**?

CUT ALONG DOTTED LINE & USE PRAYER LIST AS BIBLE BOOK MARKER

PRAYER GROUP TIME

(Make a list of people whom those in your group plan to share Jesus with this week or invite to Celebration.)
