

MAY 10/11, 2014
MOTHER'S DAY
Mary: A Magnificent Model
Luke 1:26-55 (p. 870)
Pastor Dennis Keating



Scan the above QR code with your smart phone / tablet scanner to access the weekly outline notes PDF and fill-ins on the EFCC Sermon Messages page online (www.efcc.org/sermons/).

THE MAIN POINT

Mary's greatest _____ came from being _____.
(See Psalm 127:3-5)

MARY SHOWED ...

1. An unwavering _____ in God's _____. (1:45; Prov. 3:5-6)
2. A humble _____ to God's _____. (1:38)
→ Her role wasn't to _____ God's plans; but to _____ them.
3. A _____ response toward God's _____. (1:38)
→ "Gentleness" refers to a _____.
(See Matt. 11:29; Phil. 2:14; 1 Pet. 3:4)
4. Sorrowful _____ resulting from God's _____. (See Luke 2:34)

THE PRINCIPLE

Walking a _____ pathway is often the _____
for reaching full _____.

5. Unshakable _____ in following God's _____.

HIS PROMISE

He will not _____ you to anything that He will not _____
you to fulfill. (See 2 Cor. 12:9)

MAY 10/11, 2014 MESSAGE
SERMON BASED SMALL GROUP
DISCUSSION QUESTIONS



Watch Pastor's Video Blog online at www.efcc.org/video-blog/. Or scan this QR code with your smart phone / tablet scanner to access the video on your mobile device.

Personal preparation for your group time: Read Luke 1:26-55; review your outline and think through the discussion questions.

As a group, read Luke 1:26-55 and watch the video blog (see links above).

Connecting

1. Share some favorite memories you have about your mom.

Growing

2. How has God been speaking to you lately about trusting Him? (v. 45; Prov. 3:5-6)
3. Do you remember a time when you questioned God's plans or timing? What was the result? (v. 38)
4. What is your attitude toward other people or even God when life gets hard? (Luke 2:34-35)

Sharing

5. Do you feel you've reached your full potential? What in your life do you still need to repent of or surrender to God?

S.O.A.P. Devotional

How to Use This S.O.A.P. Devotional

S.O.A.P. stands for Scripture, Observation, Application, Prayer.

See next page to begin your S.O.A.P. Journal entry for this week.

SCRIPTURE: Start each day by reading the assigned passage, expecting to hear from God. Read slowly, noticing key people and places. Think about what the people in the text were experiencing. Consider rewriting the passage in your own words and jot down any verse that stands out to you. Remember, the Bible is about your love relationship with Him. So as you read, open your heart and mind to draw close to the Lord, asking Him to deepen your heart's connection to Him.

OBSERVATION: In this section write down observations about the verses you have just read. Focus on answering the questions, "What does this passage actually say?" and "What does it mean?" Define key terms, check another translation and make sure you notice the context of the passage you are reading. Then try to summarize the passage in your own words.

APPLICATION: Next ask, "Lord what are you saying to me through this text of Scripture?" Write down how you think this passage relates to you right now, as well as anything specific with which you identify.

PRAYER: During this last portion of your time, interact with God's Word through prayer. Respond to the passage with prayers of adoration, confession, renewal, petition, intercession, affirmation, or thanksgiving. As the Lord speaks to you through the text, respond to Him in prayer.

Our hope in providing this S.O.A.P. companion to the current sermon series is that you will grow deeper in your relationship with the Lord. If you miss a day, don't sweat it; just pick up where you left off and enjoy entering into the presence of God.



S.O.A.P. Devotional Journal

Each day this week, please read through the verses provided. As you move through the week in the passages below, look for something new you didn't notice the day before and include that observation in your S.O.A.P. Journal notes below.

MONDAY SCRIPTURE: Luke 1:26-55; Philippians 2:12-18; Proverbs 3:1-12

OBSERVATION: _____

APPLICATION: _____

PRAYER: _____

TUESDAY SCRIPTURE: Luke 1:26-55; Matthew 11:25-30; 2 Corinthians 12:1-10

OBSERVATION: _____

APPLICATION: _____

PRAYER: _____

WEDNESDAY SCRIPTURE: Luke 1:26-55; Ephesians 6:1-4; Genesis 15:1-6

OBSERVATION: _____

APPLICATION: _____

PRAYER: _____

THURSDAY SCRIPTURE: Luke 1:26-55; 2:22-35; Philippians 4:4-9

OBSERVATION: _____

APPLICATION: _____

PRAYER: _____

FRIDAY SCRIPTURE: Luke 1:26-55; 2 Samuel 6:18-29

OBSERVATION: _____

APPLICATION: _____

PRAYER: _____

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(For Scripture references and fill-in the blanks)

THE MAIN POINT: Mary's greatest **blessing** came from being **a mother**. (See Psalm 127:3-5)

"Behold, children are a gift of the LORD, the fruit of the womb is a reward. Like arrows in the hand of a warrior, so are the children of one's youth. How blessed is the man whose quiver is full of them;" Psalm 127:3-5

"No job can compete with the responsibility of shaping and molding a new human being." Dr. James Dobson

MARY SHOWED ...

1. An unwavering **trust** in God's **Word**. (1:45; Prov. 3:5-6)

"Trust in the LORD with all your heart and do not lean on your own understanding. In all your ways acknowledge Him, and He will make your paths straight." Proverbs 3:5-6

2. A humble **submission** to God's **authority**. (1:38)

- Her role wasn't to **question** God's plans; but to **follow** them.

"No man is poor who has a godly mother." Abraham Lincoln

3. A **gentle** response toward God's **calling**. (1:38)

- "Gentleness" refers to a **non-complaining attitude**. (See Matt. 11:29; Phil. 2:14; 1 Pet. 3:4)

"... gentle and humble of heart." Matthew 11:29

"Do all things without grumbling or disputing;" Philipians 2:14

"... is precious in the sight of God." 1 Peter 3:4

4. Sorrowful **emotions** resulting from God's **will**. (2:34)

THE PRINCIPLE: Walking a **painful** pathway is often the **prerequisite** for reaching full **potential**.

"If it was going to be easy to raise kids, it never would have started with something called labor!"
Anonymous

5. Unshakable **courage** in following God's **plan**.

HIS PROMISE: He will not **call** you to anything that He will not **empower** you to fulfill. (See 2 Cor. 12:9)

"My grace is sufficient for you." 2Corinthians 12:9