

# king's chapel

## *Community Group Discussion Guide*

Week of November 30, 2014

**This Week's Focus:** The joyful song of Mary.

**This Week's Text:** Luke 1:46-55

*"That everything that man boasts in, his intellect, his understanding, his power, his social status, his influence, his righteousness, his morality, his ethics, his code, everyone of them is utterly demolished by this Son of God."* **Martin Lloyd Jones**

*And Mary said to the angel, "How will this be, since I am a virgin?" And the angel answered her, "The Holy Spirit will come upon you, and the power of the Most High will overshadow you; therefore the child to be born will be called holy—the Son of God. And behold, your relative Elizabeth in her old age has also conceived a son, and this is the sixth month with her who was called barren. For nothing will be impossible with God." And Mary said, "Behold, I am the servant of the Lord; let it be to me according to your word." And the angel departed from her.* **Luke 1:34-38**

**Related Texts:** 1 Timothy 2:5, 6:17-19; Matthew 19:24, 26:26-28; Luke 1:1-45, 11:27-28; 1 Samuel 2:1-10; James 4:6; Psalm 99: 3-5; Galatians 3:16

### **Observations and Questions for Discussion:**

- What in the text/sermon was most illuminating or helpful? Why?
- Discuss and describe the meeting between Elizabeth and Mary.
- Where does Mary's joy originate? Why?
- Discuss the ways Mary describes herself.
  - In what ways is Mary a blessed woman?
  - What did Mary say her relationship to God was?
  - Describe the words Mary uses in her praise to God.

- After reading the “Magnificat,” discuss what kind of God Mary believes in?
- Read Luke 11:27-28. Why did Jesus lightly rebuke the woman who spoke out? What was he trying to communicate?
- Explain the contrast in verses 50-53 between the rich and powerful as compared to the poor and lowly.
  - Discuss how this explains the truth about the gospel and how it is received?
  - Read 1 Timothy 6:17-19. Discuss the traps in having abundance.
- The word mercy is used twice in our text. Its Hebrew counterpart is “Hesed”. It expresses God's covenantal love, loyalty and grace. How does Mary use it? What is God telling us?
- Discuss the difference between God-centered joy and circumstantial happiness.

**Gospel Celebration:**

- Jesus Christ, who is the gospel, is the fulfillment of God's covenant promise!
- Jesus Christ, who is the gospel, brings eternal joy for the sinner!

**Next Week's Text: Luke 1:67-79**