



Resources

- Watch or listen to Sunday's sermon: abfboone.com/sermons
- Find Life Group resources: abfboone.org/groups/resources

Luke 1:39-45

39 In those days Mary arose and went with haste into the hill country, to a town in Judah, 40 and she entered the house of Zechariah and greeted Elizabeth. 41 And when Elizabeth heard the greeting of Mary, the baby leaped in her womb. And Elizabeth was filled with the Holy Spirit, 42 and she exclaimed with a loud cry, "Blessed are you among women, and blessed is the fruit of your womb! 43 And why is this granted to me that the mother of my Lord should come to me? 44 For behold, when the sound of your greeting came to my ears, the baby in my womb leaped for joy. 45 And blessed is she who believed that there would be a fulfillment of what was spoken to her from the Lord."

I. Mary's Greeting (39-40)

II. Elizabeth's Response (41-45)

III. Mary's Praise, known as the Magnificat next week (46-56)

Life Group Leader Notes:





- What is the importance of studying scripture within its proper context? Are there passages that are commonly difficult to properly understand or that require extra attention?
- As Mary greeted Elizabeth, John greeted Jesus from the womb. “John was the greatest prophet of the old covenant—the one called to announce the coming of the Christ. Jesus was the Christ, the Lord of the new covenant. So when Mary met Elizabeth, the covenants connected... (and) there was a spontaneous outburst of exultant joy, as the old covenant greeted the new.” (Philip Ryken) How does this scene bring joy to us as readers?
- John was said to be filled with the Holy Spirit and this was his first announcement about the coming Messiah. Later in his life John will say to questioning disciples, “He who has the bride is the bridegroom; but the friend of the bridegroom, who stands and hears him, rejoices greatly because of the bridegroom’s voice. So this joy of mine has been made full. He must increase, but I must decrease.” How does this describe the life of every follower of Christ? How might we decrease that he might increase in our lives this week?
- Though his ministry only lasted six months, John had a ministry that made much of Christ. Do you know anyone who has given everything to the cause of Christ? What can we learn from these people? What are some ways you can make much of Christ with the little or much time you may have in this life?
- How does the difference in Mary and Elizabeth's age, status, and situation reflect different aspects of God's power?
- These two women believed in the unbelievable - that God had come to redeem His people. How do we presently continue in this same faith? What has changed since then that today we might believe with even greater faith?

