

# THE GOSPEL OF LUKE

AN INVESTIGATION INTO THE LIFE, WORK,  
TEACHING AND CLAIMS OF JESUS CHRIST

## Worry or Worship?

LUKE 1:46–56 | FEBRUARY 23 & 24, 2013

For the last few weeks we have been learning from the Nativity Narratives found in Luke. Today, we focus on Mary's song—*The Magnificat*. This passage, named for the Latin word which opens the song, is a deep expression of love that flows out of time spent trusting God and reflecting on His truth. Though her life points to significant challenges ahead, Mary is sure that whatever she faces, she faces with God.



Watch this week's summary message from Pastor Mike at <http://luke.christchurchil.org/resources>. (Videos will be live on Sunday afternoon.)

## WITH THE GROUP



### LEARNING | BEGINNING TO CONNECT WITH THE TOPIC

What makes you cheer, rejoice or celebrate? What has been something you have celebrated lately?



### LEARNING | GETTING CLEAR ON WHAT WAS TAUGHT

Review Mary's response to her "turning point" (i.e., life-changing) news in Luke 1:46–56. What qualities of God does Mary ponder and proclaim?

Using a study Bible with cross-referencing (often a center column or small print at bottom) identify and look up some of the verses Mary "has hidden in her heart" and remembered during her celebration. Why do you think her earlier time with God's truth has prepared her for her present circumstance?



### LOVING | GROWING OUR HEART FOR A LOVING GOD

What was the most helpful or inspirational part of the sermon for you?

Pastor Mike referenced some verses to help fight anxiety. Consider some: Romans 8:28–39; Proverbs 3:5–6; Matthew 6:25–34; John 14:1–4. How do these truths help you trust God in your circumstances?



### LIVING | STARTING TO LIVE LIKE JESUS DAILY

Are you anxious? On a scale of 1 (low) and 10 (panic attack) where are you this week? What are you anxious about? How does that compare to God's sovereignty (ability to work things out) or love for you? Is what you face beyond God's grasp?

If you were able to trust God with the outcomes of what worries you, are there any ways that you might see these challenges actually growing you, growing your faith or improving who you are as God's child?

## ON YOUR OWN



### PRACTICE

Try to read *The Magnificat* once or twice every day this week. Before you do, pause to reflect on what worries come to mind, then read Mary's words and reflect on how her approach to her concerns might actually help steer you from worry towards worship.



### PRAYER

Father, I often pray hoping you'll fix things. Thank you that you are a good and loving God who cares for me and has the power to protect me. Thank you even more that you have the wisdom to take me where I may not choose to go in order to shape me into who I could not otherwise become.



### MEMORIZING

"Cast all your anxiety on him, because He cares for you."  
—1 Peter 5:7

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VIA EMAIL AT [HTTP://LUKE.CHURCHIL.ORG/RESOURCES](http://luke.christchurchil.org/resources).