

Follow Up from Sunday January 8 and readings and questions for the week of January 9-14

Reflective question: From what you know about Jesus, what do you find about the story and life of Jesus to be amazing?

Reflective practice: Imagine yourself in Luke's shoes...what would you have done to make sure you got the story as right as possible?

This is not a Monday-Friday type of thing, just readings and questions between the sections taught from Sunday to Sunday. Read and answer at your own pace.

Luke 1:5-20

Why do you think God chose Elizabeth and Zechariah to give birth to John?

Would you have reacted as Zechariah to such a surprising turn of events? What has God done in your life that caught you by surprise?

Luke 1:21-38

How did Mary's reaction differ from Zechariah's?

What does Mary's answer reflect about her and her relationship with God?

Luke 1:39-56

What does Mary's song reveal to us about her faith?

Why do you think Mary focuses on "great reversals" in her song? (scattered the proud, lifted the humble, sent the rich away...)

Luke 1:57-80

What was the first thing Zechariah did when he recovered his ability to speak?

What does Zechariah's song have in common with Mary's?

What did Zechariah understand to be his son's purpose?

Reread 1:5-80...

What strikes you as most important in this first chapter of Luke's gospel? Most surprising...what amazes you?

Consider the many blessings you have received from God. Try to write your own song of praise to God for your life.

Luke 2:1-20

Why do you think Luke mentions the census as a reference point for Jesus' birth?

Why did the appearance of the angel cause fear? What was the angel's message?

What was the reaction of the shepherds as they returned to their flocks? Why did they respond this way?