CHARITY MISSIONARY BAPTIST CHURCH BIBLE STUDY ASSIGNMENT – WEDNESDAY, MAY 24, 2023 LUKE CHAPTERS 1 & 2 "MOTHER MARY"

On May 24, 2023, we will study the most important mother in the Bible, MOTHER MARY.

1. Where in the Gospel of Luke do we meet Mary for the first time and how old you think she was at the time?

ANSWER: We meet Mary for first time in Luke 1:27 and she is betrothed (NKJV) or pledged (NIV) or engaged (NLT) all of these terms meant she was probably 13 or 14 years old because she could not be pledged to Joseph until after puberty. Yes, Mary was a teenage mother!

2. What do you think the angel Gabriel meant in **Luke 1:28** when he greeted Mary by calling her "favored woman!" and "The Lord is with you!"?

ANSWER: We can see from Luke 1:11-13, Gabriel gave Zechariah a very different greeting than he gives Mary in Luke 1:28-31 where he tells Mary she has found favor with God! Luke was also looking back at 1 Samuel 1:18 where Hannah, another great mother of the Bible, said to the prophet Eli about being able to have a child in 1 Samuel 1:18, "May your servant find favor in your eyes." And God was showing the greatest act of favor to Mary because He had chosen her to bring his only begotten son into the world. And when Gabriel said "The Lord is with you" he was saying in essence ALL of this possible because "The Lord is with you!" And it also make us think of Matthew 1:23 where Gabriel told Joseph who was engaged to Mary, in Matthew 1:23 (NKJV) 23 "Behold, the virgin shall be with child, and bear a Son, and they shall call His name Immanuel," which is translated, "God with us."

3. What were the major differences between how Zechariah responded to the angel Gabriel's words in **Luke 1:5-22** and how Mary responded to the angel Gabriel in **Luke 1:26-38?**

ANSWER: Zechariah doubted and did not believe God's angel Gabriel in Luke 1:18-20 when Gabriel told him that he and his wife would have a child, Zechariah did not believe God but Mary believed God. Mary didn't know how God would do it, but she believed He could do it! The major difference was faith verses logic!!

4. Please read **Luke 1:39-45** and tell us how did God use Elizabeth's reaction to Mary entering her house to show that Mary was indeed pregnant with the son of God?

ANSWER: Elizabeth said it all in Luke 1:44-45 NLT 44 When I heard your greeting, the baby in my womb jumped for joy. 45 You are blessed because you believed that the Lord would do what he said." Mary believed that God would do just what He said!!

5. Please read **Luke 1:46-55** and tell us what was the "Magnificat" and how did it show that God was a promise keeping God?

ANSWER: The Magnificat was Mary's song of praise and thanksgiving for the miraculous things God had done for her. Mary's praise or Magnificat shows Mary's trust in God to take care of the lowly, defend the oppressed, the left out and locked out. She was praising the God of justice! In Luke 1:55 Mary said God kept his promise to Abraham and all after him.

6. Why do you think Mary went back home in **Luke 1:56?**

ANSWER: In Luke 1:56 shows it was time for Mary to go home to Joseph showing she was indeed pregnant, and it was time to establish the divine connection between the birth of John the Baptist and the birth of Jesus, our savior!

7. Please read **Luke 2:25-38** and tell us what were the differences between the prophecies Simeon and Anna?

ANSWER: In Luke 2:34-35

Luke 2:34-35 (NLT) 34 Then Simeon blessed them, and he said to Mary, the baby's mother, "This child is destined to cause many in Israel to fall, but he will be a joy to many others. He has been sent as a sign from God, but many will oppose him. 35 As a result, the deepest thoughts of many hearts will be revealed. And a sword will pierce your very soul."

It is so important to note that Simeon's prophecy was specifically to Mary. He told her that her that Jesus would cause decision and division because some in Israel would reject him and others would accept Jesus as the Messiah. He also prophesied to Mary that true thoughts and motives a of many will be revealed as against God and that Jesus would face opposition and that he would suffer and be crucified, and he would die by a sword in his side and that sword would pierce her soul! This prophecy came true at the crucifixion!

In Luke 2:36-38 Anna is identified as a prophet, not prophetess, who lived at the Temple and while Simeon was stalking, she started praising God for sending His salvation which was Jesus, to rescue Jerusalem from the oppression of Rome and the sinfulness of Israel. And like all true prophets of those days and now, she had to go TELL IT!! Jesus lives!!

8. Where do we see in **Luke 2:41-52** that although Jesus was born the Son of God, he still obeyed and respected his mother and father?

ANSWER: Verse 42 says Jesus was 12 which means he was a year away from becoming "a son of the covenant." With puberty, a boy became a "son of the covenant," a custom continued in the present bar-mitzvah ceremony. It was considered helpful for a boy to attend the Jerusalem festivals for one or two years before becoming a son of the covenant so that he would realize what his new relationship involved. So although Jesus was almost a man according to Jewish law, Verse 51 says "Then he returned to Nazareth with them and was obedient to them. And his mother stored all these things in her heart."

Bonus Question:

9. Look at Jesus' first miracle at the wedding in Cana in **John 2:1-12** and tell us how it shows that even as a grown man and the miracle working Messiah, Jesus still obeyed his mother?

ANSWER: Read John 2:3-8 shows that although Jesus did want to do what his mother Mary asked him to make wine, he did it and made more wine than they needed! We are never too old to obey Moma!