Session 01

The Coming SAVIOR

CENTRAL TRUTH | Jesus, the Son of God, is the promised Savior of the world.

Have you ever received a message that seemed too good to be true? The promise of more money than you can imagine, a spot in the summer program that has a long waitlist, or an easier way to get something you want. The truth is, most of these promises *are* usually too good to be true. That's why it's so important to check the source. When we don't know who sent the message or the number or email address looks funky, we can quickly identify most of these messages as scams, mark them as spam, and delete them. But we can hold on to promises that come from reputable sources; people we know and trust. This is why, in today's story, Mary trusted the angel's word even though it seemed impossible. Through her story, we'll see that Jesus, the Son of God, is the promised Savior of the world.

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REFLECT

What questions do I have about God?

What questions do I have about myself?

What questions do I have about the world and those around me?

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Explore SCRIPTURE

Memorize LUKE 1:31

LUKE 1:26-29

[26] In the sixth month, the angel Gabriel was sent by God to a town in Galilee called Nazareth, [27] to a virgin engaged to a man named Joseph, of the house of David. The virgin's name was Mary. [28] And the angel came to her and said, "Greetings, favored woman! The Lord is with you." [29] But she was deeply troubled by this statement, wondering what kind of greeting this could be.

LUKE 1:30-34

[30] Then the angel told her, "Do not be afraid, Mary, for you have found favor with God. [31] Now listen: You will conceive and give birth to a son, and you will name him Jesus. [32] He will be great and will be called the Son of the Most High, and the Lord God will give him the throne of his father David. [33] He will reign over the house of Jacob forever, and his kingdom will have no end." [34] Mary asked the angel, "How can this be, since I have not had sexual relations with a man?"

LUKE 1:35-38

[35] The angel replied to her, "The Holy Spirit will come upon you, and the power of the Most High will overshadow you. Therefore, the holy one to be born will be called the Son of God. [36] And consider your relative Elizabeth — even she has conceived a son in her old age, and this is the sixth month for her who was called childless. [37] For nothing will be impossible with God." [38] "See, I am the Lord's servant," said Mary. "May it happen to me as you have said." Then the angel left her.

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Refer to page 5 for a description of the 7 Arrows of Bible Reading.

Day 01

2 SAMUEL 7:12-16

READ & RESPOND

We begin with the Davidic covenant—God's promise to King David that the Messiah would come from his bloodline and bring a forever kingdom. Solomon, David's son, begins this kingly lineage, but we see this promise play out fully in Jesus, who was part of David's lineage through both his earthly father, Joseph (see Matt. 1:1-16), and his mother, Mary (see Luke 3:23-38). We might skip these passages because there are a lot of names, many which we cannot pronounce! But these names point back to a specific promise (see 1 Sam. 13:14). Through this covenant, God would redeem the world by sending His Son to defeat sin and death, to bring salvation to the world, and to establish a permanent kingdom.

What promise does God make to David about his family and his throne?

What does this passage show about God's character that He keeps promises long after they're made—even hundreds of years later through Jesus?

Have you trusted Jesus as the promised King who reigns over your life, or are you still trying to rule on your own?

MEMORIZE

Write **Luke 1:31** in a notebook from your preferred translation. Then find three to four other translations and copy them as well. Compare the wording—different word choices can deepen your understanding.

PRAY

Lord, thank You for keeping Your promise to David by sending Jesus, the Son of God and Savior of the world. Help me trust Him as my forever King and rest in His faithfulness today.

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Day 02

JEREMIAH 23:5-6

READ & RESPOND

Jeremiah had a lot to say about the leadership of Judah and the Israelites. In the verses before today's passage, he spoke against the "shepherds" of Israel—and it wasn't good news. But in verses 5-6, Jeremiah prophesied that a wise and righteous king would reign over Israel one day. This king would be from David's lineage, and his kingdom would not fail—unlike the many kings that Jeremiah served under. Jesus is that promised King. Through His work of salvation, He has established a spiritual kingdom, but one day, He will come to earth, rid it of sin, make all things new, and rule as our righteous King forever!

← **Judah's kings had failed and the people were facing exile—why would the promise of a perfect future King have given them hope?**

↓ **Since God says people need a Savior called "The LORD Is Our Righteousness," what does that reveal about our ability to make ourselves right with God?**

↔ **If I depend on Jesus for righteousness instead of my own performance, how can that free me from comparing myself to or judging others?**

MEMORIZE

Record yourself reading **Luke 1:31** aloud three to four times on your phone. Listen to it during downtime—getting ready, walking to class, before bed. Hearing it again trains your brain without extra "study time."

PRAY

Lord, thank You for keeping Your promise by sending Jesus, our righteous King. I can't make myself right with You—only Jesus can. Help me trust Him fully today and live in His grace, not my own effort.

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Day 03

LUKE 1:26-29

READ & RESPOND

Imagine being a normal, small-town teenager, and an angel of God shows up to tell you that you're going to be part of the biggest plan in history. Scared, confused, "deeply troubled"—all of these sound like reasonable reactions as Mary tried to figure out what this greeting meant. Mary's life was about to radically change. God's plans for our lives don't always make sense, and it's okay to feel unsettled. But Mary didn't let fear or confusion stop her from saying "yes" to God. She trusted the Lord and His messenger. When God is moving, trust Him enough to put your "yes" out there without knowing the full plan.

↑ **God sends His own messenger to announce a plan He's had since the beginning. What does this show you about how intentional and personal God is?**

↓ **God chose an unlikely, humble person for His biggest plan. Is there an area of your life where you feel "too ordinary" for God to use you?**

↔ **If God can use someone overlooked or unexpected like Mary, how should that change the way you see and treat others around you?**

MEMORIZE

Using a design app, turn **Luke 1:31** into an aesthetic graphic. Set it as your phone lock screen so you'll look at it dozens of times a day.

PRAY

Jesus, thank You for choosing to come into our world through an ordinary girl who said "yes." Help me trust Your plans even when they surprise me. Give me a willing heart like Mary's.

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Day **04**

LUKE 1:30-34

READ & RESPOND

Gabriel had big news for Mary: *You're about to give birth to the Savior of the world!* This announcement had been centuries in the making—since Adam and Eve introduced sin into the world. This was the promised Messiah that the prophets had pointed to for generations. The wait was finally over! And Mary's reaction? Pretty relatable: Umm . . . how is that even possible? Fair question. But God wasn't asking her to understand everything—He was inviting her into His story. Her "yes" ended up impacting literally everyone, forever. So next time you feel small or overlooked, remember this: God chose an ordinary teenager from a small town to bring about the most important birthday in history. If He could use Mary, He can definitely use you too.

What did the angel, Gabriel, tell Mary about the baby she would have?

↔ Who in your life needs to hear that Jesus is the Savior God promised?

← Why would this news have shocked Mary, since she wasn't even married yet?

MEMORIZE

Write out just the first letter of each word in **Luke 1:31.** Use it as a cue card to recall the full passage. It forces your brain to actively retrieve the words instead of just reading them.

PRAY

Jesus, thank You for coming as the Savior You promised. Like Mary, help me trust You even when things seem impossible. Give me the courage to share Your good news with others.

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Day 05

LUKE 1:35-38

READ & RESPOND

Gabriel's response to Mary's "how" question: *It's going to be a miracle.* Yes, this was impossible, and that was the point. And speaking of impossible things, he told Mary that her cousin—who couldn't have children—was pregnant. God specializes in the impossible. The child that Mary would have would be holy—fully God and fully man. Gabriel reminded her: *Only God can make possible what is impossible.* So Mary said, *Game on. Let's go!* Actually, Mary said, "I am the Lord's servant . . . May it happen as you have said." Mary had peace in what was happening because she served the God of miracles. Whatever feels impossible in your life right now, know that you serve the same God who makes the impossible possible.

← **Mary was a young, ordinary girl with no status. Why do you think God chose her?**

↓ **Mary didn't fully understand, yet she trusted and obeyed. What does her response reveal about what God asks of us, even when we don't have all the answers?**

↷ **Spend a moment asking God for a heart like Mary's—ready to trust and obey Him, even when His plans surprise you.**

MEMORIZE

After learning **Luke 1:31**, explain it to a friend or family member in your own words, then recite it to them. Teaching solidifies memory better than just reviewing alone.

PRAY

Lord, thank You for sending Jesus, Your Son, to be our Savior. Like Mary, help me trust You even when I don't understand everything. Give me a willing heart to obey You and serve Your purposes today.

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