



**SMALL GROUP CURRICULUM
FOR THE SERMON
PREACHED: December 11, 2016
PASSAGE: Luke 1:26-56**

Supernatural: When God changed the Impossible and How He Can do the Same for You!

The Big question: How do I Have Real Faith When Real Life is Real Hard?

1. What is hard for you this holiday season?

2. Look at Hebrews 11 and discuss the faith portrayed through the people in that chapter? What was most surprising, encouraging or challenging to you?

3. Read Luke 1:26 – 38 and discuss God’s plan for Mary as revealed by the Angel Gabriel? What clarification questions did Mary ask Gabriel to clear up her confusion and fear? How did Gabriel remind Mary who she was? Read Ephesians 1:3 –14 and Matthew 28:20 and discuss how God has favoured you?

5. Read Luke 1:31–33 and discuss the hypostatic union? What does that phrase mean?
Note: Two cults believe the opposite about Jesus. The Jehovah Witness focuses on the humanity of Jesus and ignores his deity. The Church of Scientology focuses on His divinity and ignores His humanity.
Why is the hypostatic union vital to our faith? In what ways can this truth bring you comfort? see Heb 4:15.

6. Why must the word of God direct our conclusions regarding who Mary is? See 2 Timothy 3:16–17 and 2 Peter 1:20–22.

Note: Roman Catholicism venerates Mary and directs prayer to her as a mediator between Catholics and Jesus. For example Catholics believe Mary was without original sin and refer to her as immaculate.

Discuss why we don't venerate and pray to Mary. See Romans 3:23 and 1 Timothy 2:5;

7. Read Luke 1:39-45. Why did Elizabeth call Mary blessed? What would have made trusting the promises of God difficult for Mary? Discuss how you can be assured God's promises are true. See Romans 8:28 – 39, Philippians 1:6 and 4:19, 2 Corinthians 12:9 and Matthew 11:28.8. When it is hardest to cling to these promises?

8. Discuss why Mary rejoiced despite hard circumstances. See Luke 1:46 –56 Share with the group similar ways you are rejoicing.

Memory Verse

Luke 1:46-47 “And Mary said, “My soul magnifies the Lord, and my spirit rejoices in God my Saviour,”