



WEEK 2 | DEVOTIONAL EXPECTING GOD'S GOODNESS

RECEIVE

Slowly. Prayerfully, read out loud **Luke 1:5–38**. Before and after the reading, pause for a moment and wait. In the silence, prayerfully ask the Holy Spirit to guide you into knowing and living what you are receiving from the Scripture. Consider, how does God want you to respond in light of this passage?

REFLECT

1. What stood out to you most in the stories of Zechariah, Elizabeth, and Mary in **Luke 1:5–38**? Why?
2. What can we learn from Zechariah and Elizabeth that will help us in our waiting through long term disappointments?
3. What do we learn about Zechariah through verse 13?
4. How does the fulfillment to the promise of Jesus' first coming (**Luke 1:31–33**) fill you with hope for the future?
5. While Mary and Elizabeth both received miraculous gifts from God, their lives were not free from hardship. What does this teach us about God's care and provision in the specifics of our daily lives?
6. When life gets confusing or difficult for you what is your tendency? Do you pull away from God? Or draw closer to God?
7. Mary's response to Gabriel was, "I am the Lord's servant...May Your Word to me be fulfilled" (**Luke 1:38**). How can her example help you trust God more in your seasons of waiting? What would it take for you to respond in this way with things you don't understand that are happening in your life?

8. How can we grow in our trust that Jesus' presence is enough, even when life circumstances don't change?
9. What does it mean to you personally to say, "If all I get is Jesus, I have all that I need?"
10. On a scale of 1–10 how expectant are you that God can do something amazing through your life?
11. If you raised that expectation how might that cause you to live differently?

RESPOND

Using your imagination, place yourself on the scene with Zechariah, Elizabeth and Mary. Read the key passage again from one of their vantage points. Hearing how they responded to God working in their lives what would your response be if you were there?

RESOURCE

On YouTube look up and watch the video
[*The Birth of Jesus: Luke 1–2, by the Bible Project.*](#)