

## DECEMBER WEEK THREE: MARY

Monday

# Luke 1:26–38

God sent the angel Gabriel to a young woman named Mary, who was betrothed to a man named Joseph. Betrothal is kind of like a marriage engagement.

The angel Gabriel greeted Mary and told her that God have favored her, meaning he loves her and chose her for a special purpose. "The Lord is with you!" Gabriel said.

When Mary saw the angel, she was afraid and wondered what the angel meant. "Do not be afraid," the angel told her, "for you have found favor with God."

Then Gabriel told Mary that she was going to have a baby. "You will bear a son," Gabriel said, "and you shall call his name Jesus. He will be great and will be called the Son of the Most High. And the Lord God will give to him the throne of his father David, and he will reign over the house of Israel forever, and his kingdom will never end."

"How will this be?" Mary asked the angel. She did not have a husband. She had not been with a man. She could not have a baby, because there was not father.

The angel told her this would happen by the power of the Holy Spirit. God would be this baby's father! "The child to be born will be called holy – the Son of God," the angel said.

Then the angel told Mary that her cousin Elizabeth was six months pregnant – even though she was too old to have a baby! "Nothing is impossible for God." Gabriel said.

"I am the servant of the Lord," Mary answered. "Let it be to me as you have said." Then, just as suddenly as he had come, the angel Gabriel left Mary.

God kept his promise to Mary. She conceived and gave birth to Jesus. God's Son – our Lord Jesus – lived perfectly, died for our sins, and rose victorious on Easter morning.

- **What did the angel Gabriel tell Mary?**
- **Who would be the father of the baby that Mary was going to have?**

Close with prayer

## DECEMBER WEEK THREE: DAVID

Tuesday

# 2 Samuel 7 – David

God had blessed King David and defeated all his enemies. A time of peace came to the people of Israel, and David was able to build a fine royal house to live in. But while David lived in a beautiful house, the ark of the covenant was still in the tabernacle tent. So David told his friend, Nathan the prophet, that he wanted to build a beautiful temple that would store God's ark of the covenant. Nathan said, "God, do all that is in your heart, for the Lord is with you."

But that night, God told Nathan something different. God told Nathan to tell David that he would not be the one to build the temple for God. Even though David would not be the one to build the temple, God reaffirmed his love for David through the prophet Nathan. God told Nathan; "Say to my servant David, 'I took you from the pasture, from following the sheep, that you should be prince over my people Israel. And I have been with you where you went.'"

Then God made some wonderful promises to David. God promised that David's son would be the next king after David, and God would make David's son a great king. He would be the one to build the temple for God. God would always love David's son and would make his kingdom strong. God ended his promises to David by saying, "And your house and your kingdom will be made sure forever before me. Your throne will be established forever."

Nathan told King David about God's great promise. After King David heard it, he went into the tabernacle and prayed a beautiful prayer of thanksgiving and praise to God.

God kept his promise to David. As long as there were kings in Jerusalem, they were from David's family. But God's promises to David were wonderfully fulfilled many years later when Jesus our Lord and eternal King was born. As a human being, Jesus was descended from David's family and is called the "Son of David." But born of the virgin Mary by the power of the Holy Spirit, Jesus is the Son of God! Jesus is our King. He defeats our greatest enemies, and he takes away our sins. And his kingdom will never end.

- **What did God promise David?**
- **How was God's promise to David wonderfully fulfilled many years later?**

Close with prayer

DECEMBER WEEK THREE: PROMISES,

Wednesday

## Summary of Bible Prophecy and Promises

To Adam and Eve after they had sinned, God gave the first promise of a Savior. When God told Noah to build an ark, God promised Noah that he and his family would be spared from the devastating destruction of the flood. God kept his promise to Noah, and by keeping his family and the offspring of Adam and Eve alive, God kept his promise of a Savior alive too. God made the rainbow as a promise to never send a flood over the whole earth again. God chose Abraham (a descendant of Adam and Eve as well as a descendant of Noah) to carry the family line of the promised Savior. But there was a problem with that. Abraham was old and he did not have any children. God kept his promise to Abraham. He gave him a son, he gave him many, many descendants, and he gave him a Savior, who 2,000 years later came from Abraham's family line.

During those 2,000 years, God continued to give promises to his people. He promised to save them from Egypt with the blood of a lamb, he promised to provide for them in the wilderness, he promised to always love them even when they didn't love him, he promised them a land of their own (the Promise Land of Canaan), and God continued to promise them the Savior. God sent prophets to share his promises with the people. The prophets gave details of what the Savior would be like.

God kept his promise to send a Savior from the family line of Eve and the family line of Abraham. That Savior is Jesus, who lived perfectly as a substitute for all who had ever lived imperfectly and for all the imperfect people who came after him. Jesus died an undeserved death for those to whom he has shown undeserved love. God promises that the death of Jesus counts as the punishment that every sinner deserves. And God promises that the perfect life of Jesus is credited to each person who trusts in God's promises for salvation and eternal life. God promises that when we die (or he returns) he will take us to live with him in heaven forever.

God has proven that he keeps his promises. Jesus is the greatest proof of that. We now wait for God to fulfill all his promises to us as we await our Promised Land of heaven. Until then, we get to give thanks to Jesus and tell others about God's promises!

.

- **What promises has God kept?**
- **What promises of God are we waiting to be fulfilled?**
- **How can we trust that God will keep his promises?**

Close with prayer



[mtolivesuamico.com](http://mtolivesuamico.com)

[f](#) [@](#) [t](#) /mtolivesuamico

## DECEMBER WEEK THREE: JUDGMENT DAY RETURN

Thursday

# Acts 1:1–11

Jesus visited with his disciples many times after his resurrection from the dead. He wanted to get them ready for their life without him. He had a big job for them. They were to tell everyone about Jesus' free gift of salvation and all that he had done and taught.

For forty days, Jesus met and spoke with his disciples about the coming kingdom of God. Jesus gave them work to do. He told them to go into all the world and to baptize and teach the people. He promised that he would be with them always.

Now, it was time for him to leave. Jesus had finished his work on earth. He had died to take away our sins. He had come alive again to show his power over death. He had spent time with his disciples to make their faith stronger. It was time for him to return to heaven.

Jesus took his disciples to a high hill. He said, "I will send the Holy Spirit to you. The Holy Spirit will help you tell others about me." As Jesus spoke these words, he began to rise from the ground. Jesus rose higher and higher into the sky until he rose above a cloud and the disciples could see him no longer. Then two angels appeared among them and told them that Jesus would one day come back to earth in the same way as they had seen him leave it.

Today, we are still waiting for Jesus to return. He reigns in heaven, where he is seated at the right hand of God the Father. There, he speaks to his Father for us. He tells his Father that we are holy in spite of the wrong things we do. We are holy because Jesus has made us holy. He has earned our holiness through his life, death, and resurrection.

Jesus promised the Holy Spirit to his disciples, and the Holy Spirit came ten days later at Pentecost. Jesus promised Judgment Day to his disciples, and we are still waiting for that day to come. When Jesus returns, we know he will come back the same way that they saw him go into the sky at ascension. He will return to judge the living and dead, and to separate the believers from the unbelievers. Jesus has promise this, and we know one day that day will come.

- **What will it be like when Jesus comes back on Judgment Day?**
- **Do you look forward to Judgment Day? You can.**

Dear Jesus, thank you for earning salvation for us. Keep us in your loving care, that we may be ready when your angels come. Thank you for being with us always. Amen.



[mtolivesuamico.com](http://mtolivesuamico.com)

[f](#) [@](#) [t](#) /mtolivesuamico

## DECEMBER WEEK THREE: JOSEPH

Friday

# Matthew 1:18–25

Joseph and Mary had promised to marry each other. But one day Joseph found out that Mary was going to have a baby. This made Joseph sad because he knew that he was not the baby's father. He thought that another man was the father, and he did not want to marry Mary if she was going to have another man's baby. So Joseph decided it would be best if he and Mary did not get married after all.

While Joseph was thinking about these things, an angel appeared to him in a dream. The angel said, "Joseph, son of David, do not fear to take Mary as your wife." The angel told Joseph that the baby growing inside Mary was from the Holy Spirit. "She will bear a son," the angel said, "and you shall call his name Jesus, for he will save his people from their sins."

Long ago, the prophet Isaiah had written that a virgin – a woman who was not yet married or united to a man – would have a son and people would call him Immanuel. Immanuel means "God with us."

When Joseph woke up, he did what the angel had told him. He married Mary, and she later gave birth to a son. Joseph named him Jesus. God loved Joseph and gave him the faith he needed to take Mary as his wife.

For a long, long time, God had been promising to send someone who would save God's people from their sins. The time had finally come!

- **What did the angel tell Joseph?**
- **What does "Immanuel" mean?**

Close with prayer