

Saturday

Please read 2:22–40. How does the story of Anna and Simeon encourage you?

Please pray for this weekend's service. Pray for the people involved in the Christmas Concert, that God would keep them healthy and joyful.

Christmas Blessings

PART 2

The Magnificent Blessing

DECEMBER 1 & 2, 2012 • MARK SPURLOCK

“From now on all generations will call me blessed. . .” *Luke 1:48b*

Mary's Song

“My soul magnifies the Lord,
and my spirit rejoices in God my Savior,
for he has looked with favor on the lowliness of his servant.

Surely, from now on all generations will call me blessed;
for the Mighty One has done great things for me,
and holy is his name.

His mercy is for those who fear him
from generation to generation.

He has shown strength with his arm;
he has scattered the proud in the thoughts of their hearts.

He has brought down the powerful from their thrones,
and lifted up the lowly;
he has filled the hungry with good things,
and sent the rich away empty.

He has helped his servant Israel,
in remembrance of his mercy,
according to the promise he made to our ancestors,
to Abraham and to his descendants forever.” *Luke 1:46–55 NRSV*



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Ask myself...

1. _____ ?

“My soul magnifies the Lord...” *Luke 1:46a NRSV*

2. _____ ?

Then Mary said, “**Here am I, the servant of the Lord; let it be with me according to your word.**” Then the angel departed from her. *Luke 1:35,38 NRSV*

3. _____ ?

...all who heard were amazed at what the shepherds told them. But Mary **treasured** all these words and **pondered** them in her heart. *Luke 2:18–19 NRSV*

4. _____ ?

“...and my spirit rejoices in God my Savior...” *Luke 1:47*

Acknowledgments

Today’s message draws greatly from an excellent sermon entitled “Mary’s Song” by John Ortberg (Menlo Park Presbyterian Church: December 11, 2011).

Some historical and contextual details are from *The Real Mary* by Scot McKnight (Paraclete Press: 2007).

Daily Meditations

Monday

Please read Luke 1:46–55. What did you learn about Mary’s song in this past weekend’s sermon?

How were challenged? How were you encouraged?

Thank God today for the miracle of Jesus’ birth. Pray that you will grow closer to Him as you study His word this week.

Tuesday

Please read Luke 1:46a. This week we’re going to go through each of the four questions asked in the sermon. All these questions require self-examination and honesty so allow some extra time to ponder!

Today, ponder on the question “What does my soul magnify?” How does that impact your daily life?

What does it mean to have your soul magnify the Lord?

Talk to God today about what your soul magnifies. Pray that more and more each day your soul will magnify the Lord.

Wednesday

Please read Luke 1:35 & 38. Today think about “Who do I ultimately trust?”

How do you struggle with trust?

How does trusting something or someone (including yourself) other than God impact your relationships?

Thank God today that He is completely trustworthy! Pray that you will grow in your faith in Him and that your life will reflect your trust in God.

Thursday

Please read Luke 2:18–19. As you think about today’s question, “What do I treasure and ponder?” write down the first three things that come to mind.

- 1.
- 2.
- 3.

What do these three things tell you about what you treasure?

How do your treasure and thoughts impact your attitude?

Thank God today for the ultimate treasure of His Son, Jesus. Talk to Him about your struggles with treasuring and pondering the right things. Pray that God will help you focus on your heart and mind in the right direction.

Friday

Please read Luke 1:47. Here’s the summary question for the week, “What is my song?” Put another way, “What does your soul rejoice in?”

Thank God today for His love for you. Ask Him to direct your soul to rejoice in the right things. Pray that your life’s song will be a blessing to those around you.



“My soul magnifies the Lord,
and my spirit rejoices in God my Savior.”
Luke 1:46–47