

Gabriel Visits Mary in Nazareth

In the sixth month of Elizabeth's pregnancy, God sent the angel Gabriel to Nazareth, a town in Galilee, to a virgin pledged to be married to a man named Joseph, a descendant of David. The virgin's name was Mary. The angel went to her and said, "Greetings, you who are highly favored! The Lord is with you." Mary was greatly troubled at his words and wondered what kind of greeting this might be.

Luke 1:26-29 (NIV)

"Hail Mary,	. the Lord is with you."
low Was Mary Full of Grace?	
• Grace is God's	to us all
• Mary	to others.
• Mary was with God's grace	in

John 1:14, 16-17 (WEB)

LIKE MARY, WE ARE ALL

Gabriel's Visit Continued

But the angel said to her, "Do not be afraid, Mary; you have found favor with God. You will conceive and give birth to a son, and you are to call him Jesus. He will be great and will be called the Son of the Most High. The Lord God will give him the throne of his father David, and he will reign over Jacob's descendants forever; his kingdom will never end."

Luke 1:30-33 (NIV)

The name Jesus means: ______

"How will this be," Mary asked the angel, "since I am a virgin?" The angel answered, "The Holy Spirit will come on you, and <u>the power of the Most High will overshadow you</u>. So the holy one to be born will be called the Son of God. Even Elizabeth your relative is going to have a child in her old age, and she who was said to be unable to conceive is in her sixth month. For no word from God will ever fail."

Luke 1:34-37 (NIV)

GOD'S CALL IN OUR LIVES _____

You have searched me, LORD, and you know me. You know when I sit and when I rise; you perceive my thoughts from afar. You discern my going out and my lying down; you are familiar with all my ways. Before a word is on my tongue you, LORD, know it completely. You hem me in behind and before, and you lay your hand upon me.

Psalm 139:1-5 (NIV)

"He must become greater; I must become less."

John 3:30 (NIV)

THREE STEPS TO EMBRACING GOD'S CALL

STEP ONE:

"I am the Lord's servant," Mary answered. "<u>May your word to me be fulfilled</u>." Then the angel left her.

Luke 1:38 (NIV)

STEP TWO: _____

At that time Mary got ready and hurried to a town in the hill country of Judea, where she entered Zechariah's home and greeted Elizabeth. When Elizabeth heard Mary's greeting, the baby leaped in her womb, and Elizabeth was filled with the Holy Spirit. In a loud voice she exclaimed: "<u>Blessed are you among women, and blessed is the child you will bear</u>! But why am I so favored, that the mother of my Lord should come to me? As soon as the sound of your greeting reached my ears, the baby in my womb leaped for joy. <u>Blessed is she who has believed that the Lord would fulfill his promises to her</u>!" Luke 1:39-45 (NIV)

STEP THREE: ______

And Mary said: "<u>My soul glorifies the Lord and my spirit rejoices in God my Savior, for he has been mindful of the humble state of his servant</u>. From now on all generations will call me blessed, for the Mighty One has done great things for me—holy is his name. His mercy extends to those who fear him, from generation to generation. He has performed mighty deeds with his arm; he has scattered those who are proud in their inmost thoughts. He has brought down rulers from their thrones but has lifted up the humble. He has filled the hungry with good things but has sent the rich away empty. He has helped his servant Israel, remembering to be merciful to Abraham and his descendants forever, just as he promised our ancestors."

Luke 1:46-55 (NIV)

Answer key

"HAIL MARY, FULL OF GRACE, THE LORD IS WITH YOU."

- Grace is God's GIFT to us all.
- Mary SHOWED GRACE to others.
- Mary was **PREGNANT** with God's grace in **HUMAN FORM**.

LIKE MARY, WE ARE ALL CALLED BY GRACE.

The name Jesus means: GOD SAVES.

GOD'S CALL IN OUR LIVES OVERSHADOWS US.

STEP ONE: ALLOW GOD TO USE YOU

STEP TWO: SEEK ENCOURAGEMENT

STEP THREE: REFLECT AND REJOICE

Sources: Not a Silent Night by Adam Hamilton, The Daily Bible Study: Luke by Barclay, The Communicator's Commentary: Luke by Larson, and various illustrations from Preaching Today.