

## Home of Elizabeth

Luke 1:39-56

1. Introduce yourselves to the others at the table. This summer would you rather be sitting by a lake, a river, an ocean, or a pool? Share why.

2. Our true story tonight involves Jesus visiting Elizabeth. Read Luke 1:5-10. What do you learn about Elizabeth in these verses?

Describe your impression of her in one word.

3. The rituals and worship of God in the Jerusalem Temple began with the Wilderness Tabernacle. For background information about the altar of incense read Exodus 30:1-10. Who is the first priest to burn incense on the altar of incense in the Tabernacle?

Read Luke 1:11-17. While burning incense in the Temple in Jerusalem, what miraculous news does the angel give Zachariah, Elizabeth's husband?

4. Read Luke 1:18-25. How does Zechariah respond to the news and what is the result?

What appears to be Elizabeth's response to this amazing news?

Think of a time God blessed you in an amazing way. What was your response to God?

5. Read Luke 1:26-38. Describe the miraculous news Mary receives from the angel Gabriel six months later.

What are some emotions you might have felt if you had been Mary?

From Mary's conversation with the angel Gabriel, what does Mary's final response tell us about her?

6. Reread Luke 1:13-17 along with 31-35. Compare and contrast the descriptions of John and Jesus.

7. Continue reading the central part of our story in Luke 1:39-42. What word describes Mary's journey to visit Elizabeth? Why do you think Mary wanted to visit Elizabeth?

8. What two things does Elizabeth experience when Mary greets her? See verse 41.

9. How do you define joy?

Share some things that bring you joy.

## Home of Elizabeth

Luke 1:39-56

### Elizabeth's Godly Home

Luke 1:5-25

Elizabeth, from the tribe of Levi, is the perfect wife for Zechariah, a priest.

She walks with God, honoring Him with obedience.

Even though she knew the pain of having no children, she is not bitter.

As Zechariah burns incense in the Temple, the angel Gabriel gives him great news:

Elizabeth will have a son. You will name him John. He will bring joy. He will be great before the Lord. John will be filled with the Holy Spirit, and will ready the people for the coming Messiah.

Zechariah is doubtful, but Elizabeth spends time with God praising Him with a grateful heart.

### Mary's Incredible News

Luke 1:26-38

After six months, Gabriel now appears to Mary and announces:

You will have a son, and you are to name Him Jesus. He will be great and will be the Son of God. He will reign on David's throne forever. His kingdom will never end.

As a virgin, Mary does not understand completely, but she is willing to do God's will completely.

Gabriel gives Mary an encouraging example of God's impossible work, Elizabeth is pregnant!

### Jesus' Joy-Filled Visit

Luke 1:39-56

Mary, pregnant with Jesus, goes quickly to Elizabeth's home.

Elizabeth feels John leap for joy and she is filled with the Holy Spirit.

Elizabeth knows Mary is carrying the Messiah. She encourages Mary with understanding, and praises God.

Elizabeth recognizes Mary's faith. Both women are filled with joy!

Mary now praises God with her own beautiful, humble song of praise to God for Who He is and His actions.

### Joy In Your Home

Jesus can bring joy to our homes:

**through blessings.** *Jesus confers favor or well being on us with a multitude of joyful moments.*

**in suffering.** *Jesus is with us in difficult times deepening our relationship with Him which brings joy.*

**which will never end.** *Jesus' death and resurrection made possible for eternal joy to lodge in our hearts.*

Let joy be the norm for your daily living regardless of your circumstances.

1. Look for joy in your home every day and notice the \_\_\_\_\_!

2. Remember Jesus has redeemed you, saved you, loves you, and is \_\_\_\_\_ with you!

3. Praise Him for who He is and for what He has done to bring you \_\_\_\_\_!

Key: blessings, present, joy

Heart of the Home – Elizabeth

June 1-2, 2022

**REVELATION 3:20** “Behold, I stand at the door and knock. If anyone hears my voice and opens the door, I will come in to him and eat with him, and he with me.”

**MATTHEW 11:10-11a** “This is he of whom it is written, ‘Behold, I send my messenger before your face, who will prepare your way before you.’ Truly, I say to you, among those born of women there has arisen no one greater than John the Baptist.”

**ISAIAH 12:5-6** “Sing praises to the LORD, for he has done gloriously; let this be made known in all the earth. Shout, and sing for joy, O inhabitant of Zion, for great in your midst is the Holy One of Israel.”

**DEUTERONOMY 12:7** “And there you shall eat before the LORD your God, and you shall rejoice, you and your households, in all that you undertake, in which the LORD your God has blessed you.”

**PHILIPPIANS 4:4-7 (NIV)** Rejoice in the Lord always. I will say it again: Rejoice! Let your gentleness be evident to all. The Lord is near. Do not be anxious about anything, but in every situation, by prayer and petition, with thanksgiving, present your requests to God. And the peace of God, which transcends all understanding, will guard your hearts and your minds in Christ Jesus.

**PSALM 16:11** You make known to me the path of life; in your presence there is fullness of joy; at your right hand are pleasures forevermore.