



Week 3

Sermon Series: Songs of the Savior

Sermon Title: How Will This Be?

Sermon Text: Luke 1:26-38

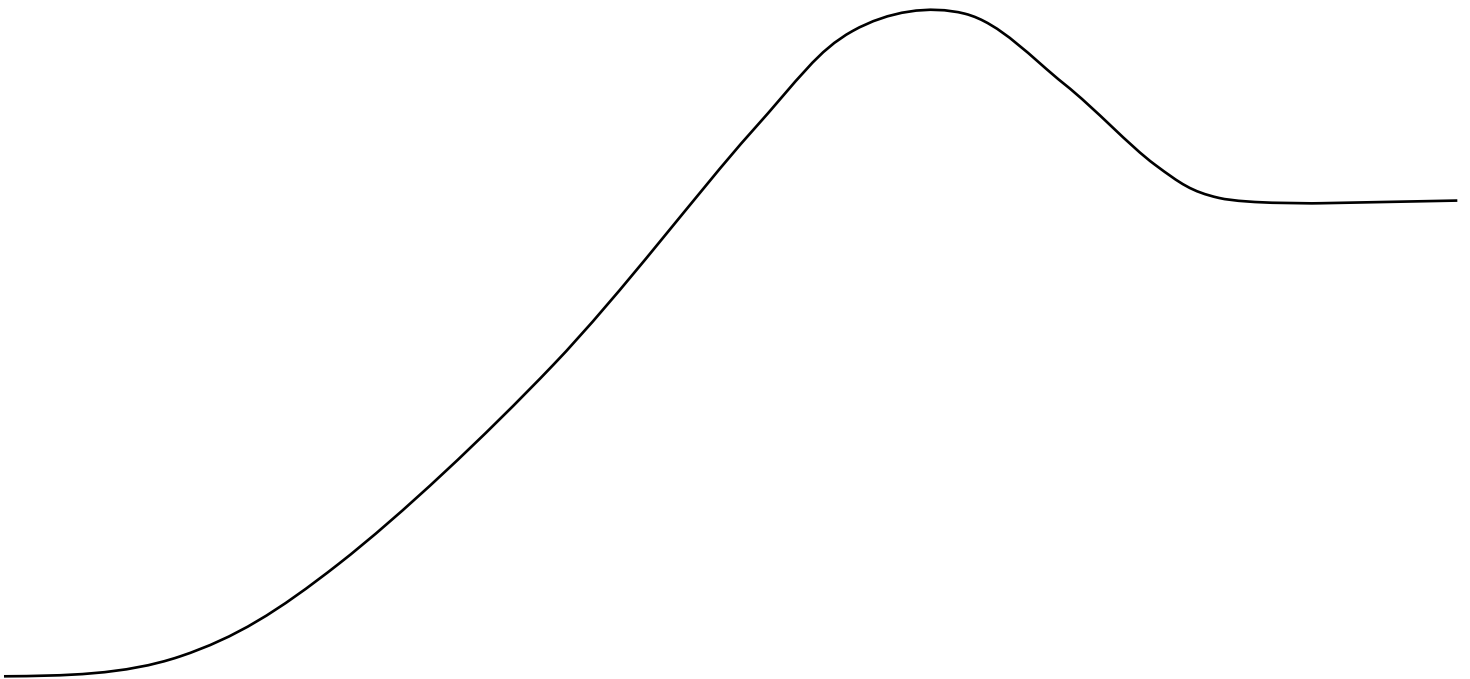
Group Week of: April 09, 2023

Sermon Date: April 16, 2023

Scriptures for Additional Daily Studies	
Day 1	Davidic Covenant – 2 Samuel 7:1-17
Day 2	Immanuel Prophecy – Isaiah 7:1-16
Day 3	Joseph’s Story – Matthew 1:18-25
Day 4	God’s Promises – 2 Peter 3:1-9
Day 5	God’s Words Never Fail – Isaiah 55:1-13

The Text

- 1) **Read** the text slowly and carefully.
- 2) **Pray** for understanding, insight, and transformation.
- 3) **Fill in Plot Arch** by writing down versus in the story as points on the plot line to help show you where the main lessons in the story are.
- 4) **Answer** the interpretive questions at the bottom.



Textual Questions

- 1) What is the message that God and Luke are speaking through this text?
- 2) What is the purpose of Gabriel telling Mary twice that she is “favored” by God?
- 3) What similarities and differences do you see between Mary’s question (v34) and Zechariah’s question (v18)?

Discussion Guide Questions

- 1) Do you ever feel like your faithfulness goes unnoticed by God? Give a yes or no along with your reasoning below.

- 2) While we might understand why God picked Zechariah and Elizabeth (faithful priestly family with a high pedigree), Mary is almost the complete opposite. She would have been only a young girl from a small town and region that is generally looked down upon. Nevertheless, the angel tells Mary that she has “found favor with God.” What does this tell you about God *noticing* us and others?

- 3) Read 2 Samuel 7:1-17, and compare it with the angel Gabriel’s announcement to Mary in verses 31-33. What similarities do you see?

- 4) Has there ever been a promise of God that you waited a long time to see fulfilled in your life? If so, talk about that story with your life group.

- 5) The promise made to David in 2 Samuel 7:14 would have been delivered nearly 1,000 years before the birth of Jesus. What does this teach you about waiting on God to fulfill His promises?

- 6) Question 3 above asked you to compare Zechariah’s and Mary’s responses. Why do you think the angel dealt differently with Mary’s question than he did with Zechariah’s question? Secondly, what does this teach you about how God deals with our questions to Him?

- 7) After Gabriel’s response, Mary says, “I am the Lord’s servant.” Literally translated, the word “servant” means *female slave*. In your heart, do you give yourself to the Lord as His “slave”? Is there anything in your life that you keep for yourself and do not let God be sovereign over? If so, what keeps you from giving that over to the Lord?

- 8) Although Mary is now given the highest honor to any woman, she would also now be labeled a woman who got pregnant out of wedlock. The blessing of God came with the reproach of man. This is true all throughout the Christian life. Where have you dealt with this tension in your life? How can giving yourself to the Lord and trusting in Him give you peace with this tension in your life?