**BCM Bible Study September 2-3, 2015**

**Luke 1 and 2: Prophecies and Fulfillments**

**Read Luke 1: 5-17 John’s birth prophecy**

How would you describe this son’s mission? (Who is he? Who will he become?)

We’ll get more into John next week, but could someone give a brief explanation of who John is and why are we talking about him?

**Read Luke 1: 26-38 Jesus’ birth prophecy**

How would you describe this son’s mission? (Who is he? Who will he become?)

How do the truths about John and Jesus compare? What expectations would Mary have after this news?

When were you recently fearful but believing? How did God meet you? - OR - In what area of your life do you need to believe that “nothing is impossible with God”? What keeps you from believing this?

**Read Luke 1: 44-55 Mary’s Response**

What would your song about God be like?

How does this reflect about Mary’s feelings toward God? Which attribute of God in this song do you appreciate the most? Which challenges you the most?

In this story, Gabriel gives an announcement, a Word from God, and describes Jesus as the great King. Mary responds, after some perplexity and questioning, with faith in this Word. What does it mean for you to live by faith in the Word? What would this faith look like? What practical small step of faith could you take this week, based on God’s Word?

**Read Luke 1: 67-80 John’s birth and response**

As Zechariah’s neighbor, what would you be thinking about this new son?

What according to the song is the purpose of salvation? What strikes you about this?

Of all the promises and prophecies in this song, which means most to you right now?

**Read Luke 2: 4-20 Jesus’ birth and response**

Of all people, why do you think God sent the angels to the shepherds?

God appeared to Mary, Zechariah, and the Shepherds when they were just doing their jobs and being themselves. What does that imply about being “spiritual”? How has God spoken to you, and how could you serve Him, in the ordinary flow of life?

What other things stuck out to you or impacted you in these verses?

Note that the shepherds left glorifying and praising God (verse 20). Is there anything in your life or experience right now for which you can praise God?

Take away: How does your life reflect Gods concern for justice, mercy, and deliverance?