

When the When a young, poor, pregnant unwed teenager is found to be with child, she has an unbelievable story. A story about an angel visitation, a promise from God, and a virgin conception. How likely would you have believed the story? Perhaps the greatest miracle of all...is that she did!

These questions are intended to deepen your experience of the message. Use them for your personal or family study time, or with an open Bible as you share the good news with your neighbor.

## Group Ice-Breaker:

(1) What is the most unbelievable thing that has happened to you...that others might find hard to believe?

(2) What is the hardest thing God has asked of you?

MARY, DID YOU KNOW? Read Luke 2:19 & 2:49-51. What do you think it means that Mary "treasured" and "pondered" things? Why did she not fully "grasp" what was going on? The big question: "Did Mary know?"

MARY'S RESPONSE. Read Luke 1:26-38. Describe each stage of Mary's response, and ask how you would have responded the same or differently.

Initial: "greatly troubled."

Question: "how?"

Acceptance: "let it happen according to your word."

JOSEPH'S RESPONSE. Read Matthew 1:18-25. Describe the events and how you would have responded the same or differently. What does it mean Joseph was a "just" man? (See **Psalm** 1:1-3). **PROPHECY. Read Isaiah 7:14; Micah 5:1-5; Isaiah 1:3; Hosea 11:1; Matt 2:13-15; John 1:11; Matthew 8:20.** How does the Old Testament speak to the birth of Jesus? Compare the story of the birth of Christ in Luke 2:1-7.

**BIRTH AND DEATH. Read Luke 2:7 & 23:53. Read Luke 2:51 & 24:8.** How are Jesus' birth and death similar? What is the significance of the way Luke describes these events?

**CHRISTIAN, DO YOU KNOW?** People know what we know by watching what we say and do. How do our actions confirm, deny, or dismiss this wonderful story of God becoming one of us?

