

Word Wednesday Lesson 2: Annunciations – Luke 1:1-80

Glossary:

- **Appointed Times:** (Heb: *moedim*) The seven annual Jewish feasts plus the weekly Shabbat. Spring: Passover, Unleavened Bread, First Fruits, Weeks (Pentecost); Fall: Trumpets, Day of Atonement, Tabernacles. (Lev 23)
- **Benedictus:** Latin for blessed or blessing. Zechariah’s prophecy (Luke 1:68-71)
- **Division of Abijah:** 8th of 24 divisions of Levitical priests established by King David (1 Chr 24)
- **Elisheva (Elizabeth)** – His oath (lit. *sheva* = seven)
- **Magnificat:** Latin for magnify; Mary’s utterance of Praise (Luke 1:46-55)
- **Miriam (Mary)** – bitterness
- **Nazirite:** a vow of self-denial signified by abstaining from grape products and haircuts. The vow was usually temporary, although Samson and John the Baptist were called to be Nazirites from birth. (Num 6, Jud 13, Acts 18, 21))
- **Yeshua (Jesus-ישוע)** - Salvation
- **Yochanon (John)** – God is gracious
- **Z’qharya (Zachariah)** – God remembers

Locations mentioned in the lesson:



Caesarea (Herod) | Jerusalem
| Masada (Herod) | Nazareth

Lesson notes & questions (teaching and videos):

Luke 1:46-47 - And Mary said, “My soul magnifies the Lord, and my spirit rejoices in God my Savior”

Lesson Reflections (review prior to Apply nights):

What is at least one new thing I learned about loving God or loving my neighbor?

Which topics discussed would I like to know more about, or need clarification on?

How does the Holy Spirit want me to apply the lesson’s Scripture to my discipleship?

(You may wish to spend time in prayer before answering.)



“Go make disciples...teaching them to observe all that I have commanded you” (Mt 28:19-20)

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APPLY! (30-35 minutes)

- Share your “Lesson Reflections” responses with the group. Jot down others’ observations.
- Luke wrote his gospel that we might “have certainty.” Do you believe the virgin birth is certain? How can you share this certainty with others?
- Mary and Zechariah had different responses to their annunciations. How would you have responded had the angel appeared to you? Note Zechariah’s “recovery” in the *Benedictus*. What does this say about how we should respond after we stumble?
- Do you believe nothing is impossible with God? Do others around you see you living like you believe it or is this an improvement opportunity?
- We often think of the wilderness as a place of testing and temptation, yet John chose to live there. Look back on your “wilderness” seasons (share details if you are comfortable).
 - What are some blessings you’ve experienced from these times?
 - How can (or in what ways are) you use your wilderness lessons to minister to others?

GO! (20-25 minutes)

What is God saying to you right now and how are you responding?

Matthew 9:37-38 – the harvest is plentiful, but the laborers are few, therefore pray earnestly to the Lord of the harvest to send out laborers into His harvest.

What is something you are excited about right now?

Psalms 37:4 Delight in the Lord and He will give you the desires of your heart.

What is a big challenge you are facing right now?

Gal 6:2 Bear one another’s burdens and so fulfill the Law of Christ

Who is on your heart right now and why?

James 5:13 Is anyone among you suffering? Let him pray Is anyone cheerful? Let him sing praise.

Review last lesson’s GO section. What prayers has God answered?

Philippians 4:8 Whatever is true, whatever is honorable, whatever is just, whatever is pure, whatever is lovely, whatever is commendable, if there is any excellence, if there is anything worthy of praise, think about these things.

Pray for one another!