

SONG 2

Be It Unto Me – Mary, Mother of Jesus

Read: Luke 1:26–56

HYMN Song + film · premieres Sunday, November 15

CAROL Song · releases Sunday, November 15

KNOW THE SETTING

"In the sixth month" (Luke 1:26) of Elisabeth's pregnancy (see verse 36), Gabriel was sent to Nazareth, "a city of Galilee" (Luke 1:26).

Mary was "a virgin espoused to a man whose name was Joseph, of the house of David" (Luke 1:27). Espoused means Mary was already Joseph's wife. Matthew calls Joseph "her husband" (Matthew 1:19) and the angel calls Mary "thy wife" (Matthew 1:20). They had not yet come together, so Mary was still a virgin (Luke 1:34).

Afterward Mary went "into the hill country with haste" (Luke 1:39) to Elisabeth's home and stayed "about three months" (Luke 1:56).

WHO SPEAKS

- Gabriel
- Mary (verses 34, 38, and her song in 46–55)
- Elisabeth (verses 42–45)

LOOK CLOSER

- Mary was "troubled at his saying" (Luke 1:29) and asked, "How shall this be, seeing I know not a man?" (Luke 1:34) Gabriel answered her question. *Reflection:* her words ask how it will happen, not whether God can do it.
- Notice "Fear not, Mary" (Luke 1:30). The same words come to Zacharias, Joseph, and the shepherds.
- Elisabeth called Mary "the mother of my Lord" (Luke 1:43) and said, "blessed is she that believed" (Luke 1:45).

CONNECT THE SCRIPTURES

- **Isaiah 7:14:** Matthew applies this prophecy to Mary's Son (Matthew 1:22–23): "Behold, a virgin shall conceive, and bear a son" (Isaiah 7:14)
- **Genesis 18:14:** Gabriel's "For with God nothing shall be impossible" (Luke 1:37) echoes the question asked of Abraham: "Is any thing too hard for the LORD?" (Genesis 18:14)
- **Isaiah 9:6:** "Unto us a son is given" (Isaiah 9:6), the one Gabriel says "shall be called the Son of the Highest" (Luke 1:32).

What this reveals about God. God works through the humble and keeps His word. Mary sang that "he hath regarded the low estate of his handmaiden" (Luke 1:48).

PONDER

1. Mary asked an honest question before she gave her answer. What does that teach about bringing sincere questions to God?
2. What did saying "be it unto me according to thy word" (Luke 1:38) require of Mary?
3. Which line of Mary's song (verses 46–55) speaks to you, and why?

TALK ABOUT IT

What helps you trust God when His plan is different from your own?

SING THE VERSE

"Behold the handmaid of the Lord; be it unto me according to thy word" (Luke 1:38)

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