

Gabriel on a Rescue Mission - Luke 1:5-38

Questions to Begin

- What was the most important day of your life?
- Have you ever planned a big surprise for someone? How did it go? How did they react?

Questions on the text

- Luke presents two couples. Of the four people, who has the most credentials? Who has the least?
- What differences can you detect in how Gabriel relates to Zechariah & how he relates to Mary? In how they relate to him?
- Gabriel gives Zechariah an assurance that his son will bring him great happiness (Lk 1:14). Does he give Mary a similar assurance?
- In addition to the birth announcement, Gabriel has a sort of job description for each of the sons who are about to be conceived. Where are the assignments similar? Where are they different? Do they indicate which child will be greater?

Questions for Application

- In what areas of your life do you need encouragement to keep on praying for something? Is there anything in this reading that could help you “to pray always & not lose heart” (Lk 18:1)?
- Has it ever seemed to you that God was inviting you to do something you felt ill-equipped for? How did you respond? What was the result?
- Gabriel announces good news to both Zechariah & Mary, but only in Mary’s case does he wait for a sign of consent (Lk 1:38). What does each scenario reveal about God’s dealings with individuals?

