

January 7 – 13

Matthew 1 and Luke 1

The Magnificat

Luke 1:46-55 is Mary's praises of God for God's great gift to her and to her people.

And Mary said, My soul doth magnify the Lord,
And my spirit hath rejoiced in God my Saviour.
For he hath regarded the low estate of his handmaiden: for, behold, from henceforth all generations shall call me blessed.
For he that is mighty hath done to me great things; and holy *is* his name.
And his mercy *is* on them that fear him from generation to generation.
He hath shewed strength with his arm; he hath scattered the proud in the imagination of their hearts.
He hath put down the mighty from *their* seats, and exalted them of low degree.
He hath filled the hungry with good things; and the rich he hath sent empty away.
He hath holpen his servant Israel, in remembrance of *his* mercy;
As he spake to our fathers, to Abraham, and to his seed for ever.

Mary's song of praise is very important in the Catholic Church. It has been set to music by Palestrina, Bach, and Mozart and can be recited as well as sung. It is called by orthodox Christians, the Magnificat.

In Catholicism the Magnificat is also known as the Canticle of Mary in the Liturgy of the Hours, a special collection of scripture readings, psalms, and hymns that constitute what is known as the prayer of the church. (Priests and other religious are required to pray sections from the Liturgy of the Hours each day.)

The Magnificat is more than a prayer of praise. It also reminds us about the essential link between humility and holiness. Mary isn't boasting of herself, because she is purely humble, but she is righteously boasting of God and His blessings even to the most lowly of His children.

- Is yours a musical family? Can you use the Magnificat to create a musical piece of your own?
- Can you find works by the composers above that use the Magnificat in their compositions?
- What was the political and social situation in Israel at the time that Mary might not be referring only to her personal situation but her nation's situation?

Who was Gabriel?

In latter-day revelation we learn that the angel Michael is Adam, and the angel Gabriel is Noah (HC 3:386). Joseph Smith taught that Noah is the angel Gabriel and stands next to Adam in holding the keys of salvation:

“Noah ... is Gabriel; he stands next in authority to Adam in the Priesthood; he was called of God to this office, and was the father of all living in his day, and to him was given the dominion” (*Teachings of Presidents of the Church: Joseph Smith* [2007], [104](#))

- Why do you think Noah was chosen to visit Mary and Elizabeth and announce to them the blessings they were about to receive?

Who was Luke?

Luke was a Gentile convert to Christianity and a physician. He did not know Christ when Christ was ministering, but he collected the testimonies of those who did, especially to convert Gentiles to the truth. Luke was a mission companion to Paul, who had been a Pharisee and an enemy to the Church before he was converted. The two of them together provided a powerful witness to anyone they encountered, Jew or Gentile.

Scholars think Luke recorded his gospel between 60 and 85 A.D.

Luke's Gospel demonstrates the Lord's interest in all people—Jews, Samaritans, and Gentiles. It emphasizes the Savior's regard for women, His empathy for the downtrodden, and His concern for those considered to be outcasts and sinners (see [Luke 19:10](#)). Because Luke's Gospel begins and concludes at the temple, it also signals the temple's importance as a principal location of God's dealings with mankind (see [Luke 1:9](#); [24:53](#)). (From the New Testament Student Manual.)

Come Follow Me

NEW TESTAMENT 2019

BINGO

Playing Conference Talk Bingo is a great way to keep your kids engaged while you study the words of our prophets and apostles. First, print one blank bingo card for each player. Choose a topic (some great topics for this week would be “faith,” “nativity,” or “miracles”) and have your kids fill in the blank bingo squares with words or phrases that come to their minds when they think about the topic. Then read one or two conference talks about the topic. Have your kids cover the words or phrases mentioned on their bingo cards with markers (Skittles, M&Ms, jelly beans, etc). The first one to cover a whole column or row wins!

	FREE SPACE	

Come Follow Me

NEW TESTAMENT 2019

CANDLE MAKING ACTIVITY

Matthew 1; Luke 1

One of the themes we can study this week includes overcoming fear and having faith. A fun activity relating to this topic is making your own candles to have light! ProFlowers has great written and video instructions on how to easily make candles at home ([How to Make Candles in 8 Easy Steps](#)). They also show you how to make fun variations like floral, colorful, and “buried treasure” candles.

Here are some suggestions on discussing the topics of faith and fear before or after making your candles:

- As “Come, Follow Me—For Individuals and Families” suggests, read through Matthew 1:20 and Luke 1:13, 30. Discuss the questions mentioned in the resource book:
 - Why might people in these verses have been fearful?
 - What causes us to feel fearful?
 - How might God be asking us to “fear not”?
- Talk about how faith, light, and love can replace fear and darkness in our lives. A good general conference talk on this topic is “Perfect Love Casteth Out Fear” by Elder Dieter F. Uchtdorf.
- Talk about how our faith is strengthened over time, just like how a candle builds upon itself and takes shape with each dip. What are some ways to strengthen our faith?
- Sing the hymn “The Lord Is My Light” as a family. Then discuss your favorite lyrics and what they mean to you.

*If you don't have the time to gather the materials or make candles, you can always read and discuss the listed scriptures and talks with your family in the dark by candlelight.

Come Follow Me

NEW TESTAMENT 2019

"DON'T EAT GRANDPA PETE" FAMILY HISTORY GAME

Week 2: Matthew 1; Luke 1

Note: The credit for this game goes to Lisa Jorgensen at [Making Life Blissful](http://MakingLifeBlissful.com).

One of the suggested areas of study for this week includes family history. Read through Matthew 1:1-17 with your family, which lists the genealogy of Jesus. Just like it was prophesied of in Jeremiah 23:5-6, the Messiah's lineage goes back to King David. After reading, talk about your own family history and get to know your ancestors' names better by playing "Don't Eat Grandpa Pete."

How to Play "Don't Eat Grandpa Pete"

Materials: family tree, small candies (Skittles, M&M's, marshmallows, jelly beans, etc.)

1. [Print a family tree for free](http://FamilySearch.org) at FamilySearch or use one of your own. Be sure the family names are visible.
2. Put a piece of candy on each family tree name.
3. Send one person out of the room, who will be the "player."
4. While they are gone, decide which name on the family tree will be "Grandpa Pete." Make sure everyone knows who you decide on.
5. Let the player come back into the room. Everyone should know who "Grandpa Pete" is but them.
6. The player then starts picking up the pieces of candy and eating them.
7. When they touch the candy on "Grandpa Pete," everyone shouts, "DON'T EAT GRANDPA PETE!" This ends the player's turn.
8. Repeat the game until everyone has had a chance to be the player.

* To make it more of a competition, you can keep track of who is able to eat the most candies before reaching "Grandpa Pete."

“Come, Follow Me” New Testament 2019

Week 2: Matthew 1; Luke 1 Gospel Resource List

These resources focus on the topics of the nativity, faith, patience, fear, family history, and “with God nothing is impossible.”

Videos

["An Angel Foretells Christ's Birth to Mary"](#)

["Mary and Elisabeth Rejoice Together"](#)

["The Naming of John the Baptist"](#)

["The Nativity"](#)

["Mary, the Mother of Jesus"](#)

[New Testament Stories Collection](#) (Chapters 1-5)

["Sealed Together: The Manaus Temple Caravan"](#)

["Pure and Simple Faith"](#)

["The Greatest Gift"](#)

[Media Library List of Videos for "Faith"](#)

[Media Library List of Videos for "Miracles"](#)

[Media Library List of Videos for "Courage and Fear"](#)

[Media Library List of Videos for "Family History"](#) - includes tutorials, inspirational videos, and words from Church leaders

General Conference Talks

["Lest Ye Be Wearied and Faint in Your Minds"](#) by Neal A. Maxwell

["Continue in Patience"](#) by Dieter F. Uchtdorf

["With God Nothing Shall Be Impossible"](#) by Russell M. Nelson

["Perfect Love Casteth Out Fear"](#) by Dieter F. Uchtdorf

["Gathering the Family of God"](#) by Henry B. Eyring

["Strength in the Savior"](#) by Chieko N. Okazaki

["Our Campfire of Faith"](#) by Gerrit W. Gong

["Faith Is Not by Chance, but by Choice"](#) by Neil L. Andersen

Others

- [Mary's Magnificat](#) - this goes through Mary's psalm of praise found in Luke 1:46-55 and draws comparisons with other scriptures
- Scriptures about fear and courage: Isaiah 41:10; Genesis 26:24; Deuteronomy 31: 6, 8; Isaiah 43:5; Isaiah 44:8; D&C 68:6
- "The Lord is My Light" Hymn