

## “JESUS: SON OF MARY”

Both Mary and her relative Elizabeth were told by the angel Gabriel that they were to bear sons, though it seemed impossible. Mary was a virgin, and Elizabeth was an old woman.

### THE STORIES:

1. Elizabeth and Zechariah:

2. Mary:

### THE LESSONS:

1. God’s ways are higher than our ways. —

*“As the heavens are higher than the earth, so are my ways higher than your ways and my thoughts than your thoughts.”* - Isaiah 55:9

2. God is in control of our lives. —

*“Once when Zechariah’s division was on duty and he was serving as priest before God, <sup>9</sup>he was **chosen by lot**, according to the custom of the priesthood, to go into the temple of the Lord and burn incense.”* - Luke 1:8,9

3. God uses holy people. —

*“Both of them (Zechariah and Elizabeth) were **righteous in the sight of God**, observing all the Lord’s commands and decrees blamelessly.”* - Luke 1:6

*“The angel went to her and said, “Greetings, **you who are highly favoured!** The Lord is with you.”* - Luke 1:28

*“How will this be,” Mary asked the angel, “since **I am a virgin?**”* - Luke 1:34

4. With God, nothing is impossible. —

*“For nothing is impossible with God.”* - Luke 1:37

5. God uses other people to increase our faith. —

*“When Elizabeth heard Mary’s greeting, the baby leaped in her womb, and Elizabeth was filled with the Holy Spirit. <sup>42</sup>In a loud voice she exclaimed: “Blessed are you among women, and blessed is the child you will bear!”*

- Luke 1:41,42

6. It’s human to ask questions. —

*“Zechariah asked the angel, “**How can I be sure of this?** I am an old man and my wife is well along in years.”* - Luke 1:18

*“**How will this be,**” Mary asked the angel, “since I am a virgin?”* - Luke 1:34

7. We are to obey, even when we don’t understand. —

*“I am the Lord’s servant,” Mary answered. “**May your word to me be fulfilled.**”* - Luke 1:38

8. Christmas is the time for miracles. —

*“How will this be,” Mary asked the angel, “since I am a virgin?” <sup>35</sup>The angel answered, “The Holy Spirit will come on you, and the power of the Most High will overshadow you. So the holy one to be born will be called the Son of God. <sup>36</sup>Even Elizabeth your relative is going to have a child in her old age, and she who was said to be unable to conceive is in her sixth month.”* - Luke 1:34-36

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