

December 5, 2010

### Mary: "How can this be?"

Luke 1:26-56

<sup>26</sup>In the sixth month of Elizabeth's pregnancy, God sent the angel Gabriel to Nazareth, a town in Galilee,  
<sup>27</sup>to a virgin pledged to be married to a man named Joseph, a descendent of David. The virgin's name was Mary.  
<sup>28</sup>The angel went to her and said, "Greetings, you who are highly favoured! The Lord is with you."  
<sup>29</sup>Mary was greatly troubled at his words and wondered what kind of greeting this might be.  
<sup>30</sup>But the angel said to her, "Do not be afraid, Mary; you have found favour with God.  
<sup>31</sup>You will conceive and give birth to a Son, and you are to call Him Jesus.  
<sup>32</sup>He will be great and will be called the Son of the Most High. The Lord God will give Him the throne of His father David,  
<sup>33</sup>and He will reign over Jacob's descendants forever; His kingdom will never end."  
<sup>34</sup>"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.  
<sup>37</sup>For no Word from God will ever fail."  
<sup>38</sup>"I am the Lord's servant," Mary answered. "May your word to me be fulfilled." Then the angel left her.  
<sup>39</sup>At that time Mary got ready and hurried to a town in the hill country of Judea,  
<sup>40</sup>where she entered Zechariah's home and greeted Elizabeth.  
<sup>41</sup>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!  
<sup>43</sup>But why am I so favoured, that the mother of my Lord should come to me?  
<sup>44</sup>As soon as the sound of your greeting reached my ears, the baby in my womb leaped for joy.  
<sup>45</sup>Blessed is she who has believed that the Lord would fulfill His promises to her!"  
<sup>46</sup>And Mary said: "My soul glorifies the Lord  
<sup>47</sup>and my spirit rejoices in God my Saviour,  
<sup>48</sup>for He has been mindful of the humble state of His servant. From now on all generations will call me blessed,  
<sup>49</sup>for the Mighty One has done great things for me—holy is His Name.  
<sup>50</sup>His mercy extends to those who fear Him, from generation to generation.  
<sup>51</sup>He has performed mighty deeds with His arm; He has scattered those who are proud in their inmost thoughts.  
<sup>52</sup>He has brought down rulers from their thrones but has lifted up the humble.  
<sup>53</sup>He has filled the hungry with good things but has sent the rich away empty.  
<sup>54</sup>He has helped His servant Israel, remembering to be merciful  
<sup>55</sup>to Abraham and his descendants forever, just as He promised our ancestors."  
<sup>56</sup>Mary stayed with Elizabeth for about three months and then returned home.

Continued...

I am interested in:

- |                                                                             |                                                   |
|-----------------------------------------------------------------------------|---------------------------------------------------|
| <input type="checkbox"/> Learning more about Island ECC                     | <input type="checkbox"/> Volunteering             |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Learning more about how to become a Christian      | <input type="checkbox"/> Talking to church leader |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Signing up for _____ (events / class / care group) | <input type="checkbox"/> Membership               |
|                                                                             | <input type="checkbox"/> Baptism                  |
|                                                                             | <input type="checkbox"/> Other                    |

Sharing a comment with the church leaders

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Today I attended the service at:  
 9.30am  11.30am  5pm

On the:  
 1st Floor  2nd Floor

### TELL US ABOUT YOU

Thank you for worshipping with us today! Do you have a praise item or a prayer request? If you would like to share your praise or prayer request with the Island ECC, please take a moment to complete **both** sides of this form and place it in the offering bag, or at a designated box on the 1st or 2nd floor.

Name \_\_\_\_\_

Mobile Number \_\_\_\_\_ Email \_\_\_\_\_

Praise / Prayer \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

If my praise / prayer request is shared publicly with the congregation at a Sunday service, please keep my name anonymous.