



Week 3 | Advent | December 11

Key Focus: How do you respond to the incredible news of Christmas?

Opening Up:

- Do you know the phrase “no pain, no gain?” How have you experienced gains through pain?
- Has working really hard and feeling really tired ever felt really good to you? Explain.
- Have you ever shared a common mission and achieved a common goal? How did that feel? Explain.

Reference: Luke 1:28-35

Discuss:

1. When God intervened in Mary’s life, parts of Mary’s life got worse. Have you ever felt called to sacrifice anything for your faith in God. Explain.
2. If you were to explain Jesus’ words “whoever loses his life for my sake will save it” (Luke 9:24) to a friend, what would you say?
3. In what way did Mary lose her life for Jesus?
4. If a parent were only a friend and not a parent, what would happen? If Jesus were only a savior and not a king, what would happen?
5. In Luke 1:29 Mary was discerning. Why is doubting and discerning okay? How has being doubtful served you in life? How can doubt be a bad thing?
6. At some point we take a leap with faith. We have to trust that although we can not understand the details of the virgin birth, it happened. If you were to explain to a friend how the Christian faith works, what would you say?
7. Why is it okay have faith and not all of the answers?
8. Have you ever experienced God’s pursuit of you in your life? Explain.
9. Is there an area of your life that God has asked you to surrender? Explain.
10. Pray.