

December 14-15, 2024

Title: Prince of Peace, Pt 3: “The Spirit of Christmas” – Luke 1:39-55

Big Idea: Be filled with the joyful, humble, thankful, and biblical Spirit of Christmas!

Read Luke 1:39-55.

What are some of your best memories of the Christmas season? Do you have any that have spiritual significance?

What in the message stood out to you? What questions do you have?

1. The Spirit of Christmas filled the baby John and Elizabeth.

Read Luke 1:39-45. In Luke 1:41, the baby John leaps from within the womb of Elizabeth in response to being in the presence of the baby Jesus in the womb of Mary. How is this a fulfillment of Luke 1:15?

Why did the baby leap in the womb? What can we learn from this?

Why do you think Elizabeth was filled with the Holy Spirit in 1:41? What was the evidence that she was filled with the Holy Spirit in 1:42-45?

What words would you use to describe the responses of John and Elizabeth?

Read Luke 1:35. What was the Holy Spirit’s role related to the child in Mary’s womb? What does this tell you about her child?

What is the role of the Holy Spirit today? Read John 16:13-15.

What would it look like to be filled with the Holy Spirit today?

2. The Spirit of Christmas is magnified in Mary’s song.

Read Luke 1:46-56. As you read the song of this 13-14-year-old, what stood out to you about the content and depth of her song?

What words would you use to describe the response of Mary?

Mary calls God her Savior. Why does Mary need a Savior? Why is this important to understand?

List all the attributes of God mentioned in her song. Which ones are especially meaningful to you and why?

As the Son of God, these attributes of God are also true of the child in Mary's womb. How were these seen in the life of Jesus?

Based on the content of her song, it is evident that Mary was very knowledgeable in the Scriptures. Compare Mary's song to the song of Hannah in 1 Samuel 2. What similarities do you see?

Read Deuteronomy 6:4-9. What does this passage teach us about the importance of teaching the children in our lives?

As you consider the faith of this 13-14-year-old, what are some ways that God can use us to encourage young people to know the Scriptures today?

"Next Step" Takeaways – Discuss and pray through the following:

- With God:
 - In your prayer journal, write out a personal response to Christmas. Ask the Lord to fill you with His Spirit and help you to be joyful, humble, thankful, and biblical.
- With Others:
 - Discuss with some friends or family what you are most thankful for from the past year.
- On Mission:
 - Ask the Holy Spirit to show you someone to invite to our Christmas Eve services (1pm, 3pm, 5pm). Pray for them, invite them, and pray for the Lord to lead people to Jesus.