



Life Guide

applying God's Word to life

When the Lord Comes Near, He Lifts up the Humbled December 18-20, 2021

Luke 1:39-55

39 *At that time Mary got ready and hurried to a town in the hill country of Judea, 40 where she entered Zechariah's home and greeted Elizabeth. 41 When Elizabeth heard Mary's greeting, the baby leaped in her womb, and Elizabeth was filled with the Holy Spirit. 42 In a loud voice she exclaimed: "Blessed are you among women, and blessed is the child you will bear! 43 But why am I so favored, that the mother of my Lord should come to me? 44 As soon as the sound of your greeting reached my ears, the baby in my womb leaped for joy. 45 Blessed is she who has believed that the Lord would fulfill his promises to her!"*

46 *And Mary said:*

"My soul glorifies the Lord

47 and my spirit rejoices in God my Savior,

48 for he has been mindful

of the humble state of his servant.

From now on all generations will call me blessed,

*49 for the Mighty One has done great things for me—
holy is his name.*

*50 His mercy extends to those who fear him,
from generation to generation.*

*51 He has performed mighty deeds with his arm;
he has scattered those who are proud in their inmost thoughts.*

*52 He has brought down rulers from their thrones
but has lifted up the humble.*

*53 He has filled the hungry with good things
but has sent the rich away empty.*

*54 He has helped his servant Israel,
remembering to be merciful*

*55 to Abraham and his descendants forever,
just as he promised our ancestors."*

1. Describe your favorite nativity set/scene.
2. Agree/disagree: Mary had the easiest parenting job ever.
3. How do you explain the fact that at Mary's voice, the baby in Elizabeth's womb "leaped for joy"?
4. What is the right/wrong way to understand Gabriel's word, "Greetings, you who are highly favored"? (Luke 1:28)
5. What is the significance of Mary's words, "My soul rejoices in God my Savior?"
6. Agree/disagree: Mary is the mother of God.
7. What parallels do you see between Mary and yourself?
8. What comfort do you find in Luke 1:51-53, especially re. the future?
9. What do you will be your attitude about Mary, the mother of Jesus?