

Small Group Session 6 ~ Mary, the mother of Jesus Covering sermon of April 3

(Guest Pastor April 10)

Ice breaker: Other than Jesus (or the Father or Holy Spirit), who is your favorite Biblical character? Why do you appreciate them?

1. Read Luke 1:26-38. Put yourself into Mary's shoes. What thoughts would have been going through your mind as you dared to say, "I am the Lord's servant; may it be to me as you have said"?

2. Heidelberg Catechism Q&A 1 says that Christ "makes me wholeheartedly willing and ready from now on to live for him." Reflect on this statement as it relates to your life in the light of Mary's statement in Luke 1:38.

3. Remind yourselves of the Christmas story of Luke 2. Read Luke 2:19, Luke 1:29 ("wondered" is the same word as "pondered"); John 2:1-12; Mark 3:20-21, 31-35; John 19:25-27. What thoughts might Mary have been pondering in her heart as she experienced these various situations?

4. Talk about a time when you were really wondering what in the world Jesus was doing with your life? What did you ponder?

5. We are not told of Mary after the resurrection. (Some try to make a case for her at the tomb, but she is not Mary Magdalene and it would seem strange to call her "the other Mary.") Bring out those imaginations one more time and write an epilogue to her story? What was life like after Jesus' resurrection? How was she changed by taking John as a son?

6. The purpose of this series has been to investigate how people's lives were transformed by Jesus so that they became Easter people. How has that transformation been taking place in your life? Where in your life do you still want to see transformation occur?

"We are an Easter People and Alleluia is our song!" - Pope John Paul II, *Angelus*, November 30, 1986.

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