

Mary: Blessed Among Women

Twelve Extraordinary Women by John MacArthur, Chapter 6

Review

1. Of all the women in Scripture, Mary stands out above all others as being the most "blessed." What does the word "blessed" mean to you?
2. What are some of the dangers that arise if Mary is elevated too much?
3. Describe Mary's early years in Nazareth.
4. What was Mary's response to the messages given to her by the angel Gabriel?
5. In what ways was Mary's visit to Elizabeth important for her?
6. What does Mary's praise song, known in Latin as the *Magnificat*, reveal to us about Mary's faith?
7. What attributes of God's nature did Mary include in her song of praise?
8. Mary appeared in only three scenes during Christ's earthly ministry. Briefly identify and describe these incidents.

Bible Connections

1. Read Psalm 72:17; Genesis 22:18; and Revelation 19:10. Why is it important to remember always that Jesus, and Jesus alone, is the fountain of grace and the long-awaited Seed of Abraham who is the covenant maker?

2. Read Luke 11:27-28. When admirers of Jesus showed undue reverence to Mary, how did Jesus respond?
3. Read Luke 1:28-35. Highlight or mark any words or phrases that stand out to you as you read again the annunciation of the angel Gabriel to Mary. Why do you think these particular words or phrases have special meaning to you?
4. Read Luke 1:46-55. As you read through Mary's song of praise to God, highlight or mark those words or phrases that stand out to you. Why do you think these particular words or phrases have added meaning?

In what specific ways do you believe a person can "magnify" the Lord?

5. Read John 2:1-5. Was Jesus being too hard on his mother?
What do you believe His purpose was in speaking to her as He did?
6. Read Mark 2:31-35. Was Jesus being too dismissive of his family?

What was His purpose in speaking to Mary and other family members as He did?

What was the message sent to the disciples who heard Him speak to His family?

7. Read Luke 2: 19, 51. What does it mean to "ponder" something in your heart?

What types of things can and should a mother "ponder" about her children?
What things are better left unvoiced?

8. Read Acts 1:14. How do you respond to the fact that Mary was among the disciples who were praying together in Jerusalem at Pentecost?