

WEEK 2: MARY DID YOU KNOW

Week Two Introduction

Playlist (listen all week): *Mary Did You Know* by Pentatonix

This week, we **DELIGHT** in a God who lived a human life with radical love. A God who physically showed His Dominion and Divine power over all of creation → over nature, ailments, sin, demons, darkness and death.

Mary, did you know? When the angel first appeared to Mary, she bravely and humbly responded, “I am the Lord’s servant. May your word to me be fulfilled.” (Luke 1:38) Then, the Holy Spirit came upon Mary and God’s power rested on her. Mary, did you know what that life as the mother of Jesus would look like? The joy. The fear. The peace. The angst. The love. The pain. The astonishment. The encouragement. The outpouring. The mourning. From the relief of *holding* him in your hands for the first time. To The grief of *beholding* him on the cross. To the joy of *embracing* His resurrected body. Did you know all of what the incarnate God – Jesus – would teach, fulfill, do, and sacrifice?

This week, we are going to dwell in the Gospels stories — the stories of the Good News of Jesus Christ. Focusing on the life He lived. The incarnate God.

Through the life, death, and resurrection of Jesus, you have been rescued from the dominion of darkness and have been brought into the Kingdom of Light.

This week, we possess **LOVE** as we dwell on the life of love that Jesus lived on this earth.

Week Two Liturgy

**Read at any point throughout week two.*

O God of Elizabeth and Mary, you visited your servants with news of the world’s redemption in the coming of the Savior. Make our hearts leap with joy, and fill our mouths with songs of praise, that we may announce glad tidings of peace, and welcome the Christ in our midst. Amen.

Select Prayer from *Revised Common Lectionary*

December 8 — Mary, did you know that your baby boy will one day walk on water?

God holds dominion over all the earth. Jesus proved His dominion and divinity over the earth as He walked on water. God spoke water into existence, the Spirit hovered over the water, Jesus walked on water.

Jesus, being fully human and fully divine, lived miraculously. While the raging sea brought fear to the disciples, Jesus used it as a means to come closer to them.

Read: Matthew 14:22-33

“Come!” Jesus calls you to Him. Often to a great unknown. Let your faith arise. Keeping your eyes fully fixed on Jesus who is the author and perfecter of your faith.

Read: Hebrews 12:1-3

Optional Engagements

- **Imagine:** Imagine this whole story. What was the storm like? What were the disciples experiencing and feeling? Imagine being Peter in this story. What was Jesus’ view of this event? What was Jesus’ perspective?
- **Ponder/Action:** How is the Lord calling you out in faith? Take a step out.
- **Pray:** Follow Jesus’ example—be by yourself with God.
- **Breath Prayer:** Truly you are the Son of God.
- **Family Activity:** Act out this story with your family. Each playing different roles, and then switching up the roles.
- **Meditate:** Slowly speak these words – You call me out upon the waters / the great unknown / where my feet may fail / and there I find you in the mystery / in oceans deep my faith will stand / and I will call upon Your Name / and keep my eyes above the waves / where oceans rise / my soul will rest in Your embrace / for I am Yours / and You are mine

Playlist: *Oceans* by Hillsong United

December 9 — Mary, did you know that your baby boy will give sight to a blind man?

God holds dominion over all creation. Jesus proved His dominion and divinity over creation when He gave sight to this man.

Read: Mark 8:22-26

Oh, to hear the tender and powerful voice of Jesus! Oh, to feel the healing touch of Jesus! When Jesus touches your life, He gives sight and clarity. Where there was once blindness (spiritually, relationally, mentally, emotionally), Jesus provides visibility – He makes things clear, understandable, discernable, evident. You have been rescued from the dominion of darkness and have been brought into the Kingdom of Light.

Read: Colossians 1:12-14 “giving joyful thanks to the Father, who has qualified you to share in the inheritance of his holy people in the *kingdom of light*. For he has *rescued us from the dominion of darkness* and brought us into the kingdom of the Son he loves, in whom we have redemption, the forgiveness of sins.”

Optional Engagements

- **Imagine:** Imagine you were this blind person. What was life like for you before you encountered Jesus? Imagine the voice and touch of Jesus. imagine what it was like to see for the first time.
- **Ponder:** Take a personal inventory. Dig deep. Be honest with yourself. – In what area of your life do you feel blind (unaware, lacking discernment, unclear, confused) or have a blind spot (emotional immaturity, insensitive to others, not listening well, being wishy-washy, lacking commitment, resistant to change, pride, indecisive, past hurt, etc)? Blind spots can be caused by a deeply rooted belief, lack of skill, or an overused strength. Ask the Lord to heal you in that. How would things change for you if you walked in healing from that blindness?
- **Ponder:** Through Christ Jesus, you have already been rescued from the dominion of darkness and have been brought into the Kingdom of Light.
- **Pray:** Ask the Lord to give you eyes to truly see. To see His mysteries. To see His heart. To see from His perspective. To see others how He sees them. To see yourself as He sees you.
- **Breath Prayer:** Giver of sight, help me see.
- **Activity:** Sit in a dark space. As you do, pray through the darkness you see in the world or in your life. Light a candle. As it illuminates the space, pray for God to bring Light to the dark places.
- **Family Activity:** Set up an area with obstacles. Then take turns with someone in a blindfold and another person talking them through the area trying to help them not hit an obstacle.

Playlist: *Tear Off The Roof* by Brandon Lake / *This is a Move* by Brandon Lake

December 10 — Mary, did you know that your baby boy will calm a storm with His hand?

God holds dominion over all creation. Jesus proved His dominion and divinity when He calmed the storm. For, even winds and waves obey Him. God spoke and created the winds and waves. Jesus spoke and commanded the winds and waves.

Read: Mark 4:36-41 / Psalms 107:28-32

God cares for you. Jesus cares for you. The Spirit cares for you. Listen to the strong, powerful voice of the Lord — “Quiet! Be Still!”

Optional Engagements

- **Imagine:** Imagine this whole story. What was the storm like? What were the disciples experiencing and feeling? What was Jesus' view? What was Jesus' perspective?
- **Ponder:** What are you afraid of? What makes you anxious? Hold those thoughts in your mind or write them down. Speak to them, “Quiet! Be Still!” Speak to your mind, “Quiet! Be Still!” If journaling, write in BOLD letters over your words: “Quiet! Be Still!” Make this a habit when you feel fear creeping in or anxiety crippling you.
- **Pray:** Imagine the storms in your life. Imagine Jesus speaking to your storms. Pray a prayer of gratitude to our God who holds dominion over all.
- **Breath Prayer:**
 - Fear and anxiety / become love and peace
 - Even the winds and waves obey Him.
- **Meditate:** Slowly repeat these lines in your mind > Peace be still / Say the word and I will set my feet upon the sea / til I am dancing in the deep
- **Family Activity:** Play the Freeze Dance game. Wiggle, dance and party until the moment someone says “Be Still” (instead of “freeze”).
- **Action:** Give thanks to the Lord for his unfailing love and his wonderful deeds for mankind. Exalt him in the assembly of the people and praise him in the council of the elders.

Playlist: *Peace Be Still* by Hope Darst

December 11 — Mary, did you know the dead will live again?

God holds dominion over all creation. Jesus proved His dominion and divinity when He raised the dead. Can these dry bones live? Nothing is too hard for our God. There is nothing in our lives He cannot revive.

Read: Luke 7:11-17

Jesus is full of compassion. His heart went out to this mother. His heart goes out to you.

Read: Romans 8:11 / Ezekiel 37:1-6

With the power of the Holy Spirit living inside you, move in compassion toward others. With the power of the Holy Spirit living inside you, realize the LIFE you have, and live that life fully— fully awake, fully honoring to God, fully joy-filled, fully empowered, fully committed, fully devoted, etc. With the power of the Holy Spirit living inside you, prophesy to the dead bones: “Live.” Where you can, usher in Heaven to earth.

Optional Engagements

- **Ponder/Journal:** What in your life is dead? What in your life is in need of the resurrecting power of Jesus Christ?
- **Pray:** Pray thanksgiving for the compassion of Jesus. Pray for the breath of God. Pray for the resurrecting power of Jesus.
- **Meditate:** What was once dead, You brought to life / What was once dark, now shines with light / Your glory fills the atmosphere / Your presence always meets us here / We come alive / What is broken, You will make whole / Every ruin, You will restore / Your blood bought freedom from our chains / You raise us up from every grave / We come alive / Your presence will change us / Your spirit will fill us / Your power will not be denied
- **Breath Prayer:** What was once dead, be full of life.
- **Action:** Practice the Presence of God. Allow your whole being – mind, heart, fears, hopes, joys, voice – to dwell in the presence of God. In His presence, there is: healing / freedom / Loving kindness / sweet forgiveness / liberation / restoration / transformation / salvation / life
- **Family Activity:** Play Hide & Seek with a twist. The seeker is Jesus who goes around finding the dead (hidiers) and once tagged, they are resurrected.

Playlist: *We Come Alive* by Jonathan Traylor / *Nothing Is Wasted* by Elevation Worship / *I Prophesy* by Brandon Lake

December 12 — Mary, did you know that your baby boy is Lord of all creation?

God holds dominion over all creation. Jesus proved His dominion and divinity as John testified to the Word becoming Flesh. Jesus was the very Word of God — spoken at the beginning and bringing all things into being.

In the beginning, the Trinity (Father, Jesus the Son and the Spirit) created everything. Together, they are Lord of all creation. Everything in the heavens belongs to the Trinity. The earth and everything on the earth belong to the Trinity. All power, dominion, rule, authority, and creativity belong to them.

Read: John 1:1-5

Jesus was there at the beginning of time creating alongside God the Father and the Holy Spirit.

Genesis 1:1-2, 27

The Trinity is still creating. God the Father originates. God the Son reveals. God the Spirit fills and sustains. We are invited to come alongside the Trinity to create life and beauty in our world. Reflect the Trinity. In doing so, you will assist in establishing the Kingdom of God on earth and gift people with the culture of Heaven. What a great gift to give this Christmas: the gift of the culture of Heaven!

Optional Engagements

- **Meditate:** God the Father originates. God the Son reveals. God the Spirit fills and sustains.
- **Ponder:** In what ways are you an “image bearer” of God, Jesus and the Holy Spirit?
- **Create:** As image bearers of the Trinity, we were created to create. Create something in a way that delights you – paint, draw, bake, build, knit, etc. Realize that as you do, you bring glory to God.
- **Breath Prayer:**
 - You created me. You know me.
 - I am an image-bearer of God, Jesus and the Holy Spirit.
- **Activity/Family Activity:** Make a family creation and go bless someone with it. Ideas: bake cookies, make homemade cards, put together a gift basket, make ornaments

Playlist: *God of Wonders* by Third Day / *What a Beautiful Name* by Hillsong Worship / *RATTLE!* by Elevation Worship

December 13 — Mary, Did you know that your baby boy is heaven's perfect Lamb?

This sleeping child you're holding is the Great I Am.

God holds dominion over all creation. Jesus proved His dominion and divinity as He was a part of the Great I Am who became Heaven's perfect Lamb.

A historical event, documented in the book of Exodus, is the 1st Passover. God – "I AM" – saved the Israelite nation from death through the blood of a lamb covering the doorposts of their homes. Jesus came to be the perfect, sacrificial Lamb whose blood covers the doorpost of our hearts. Through Jesus' sacrifice, we have been saved. Death passes over us. We have the greatest reason to celebrate!

Read: Exodus 3:14 / Exodus 12:25-27 / John 1:29 / Revelation 7:9-17

The Lord is the Great I Am. The Lord was, is, and ever more will be. Jesus, being fully God and fully man, was the ultimate sacrifice for our sins. Jesus was Heaven's perfect Lamb. At the name of Jesus, every knee will bow in Heaven, on earth, and under the earth. Every tongue will confess that Jesus Christ is Lord, to the glory of God the Father.

Optional Engagements

- **Ponder:** Think about – The cross. Jesus' sacrifice. The victory. The closeness and connection you have with the Trinity.
- **Meditate:** The morning that You rose / All of Heaven held its breath / 'Til that stone was moved for good / For the Lamb had conquered death / And the dead rose from their tombs / And the angels stood in awe / For the souls of all who'd come to the Father are restored / And the church of Christ was born / Then the Spirit lit the flame / Now this gospel truth of old / Shall not kneel, shall not faint / By His blood and in His name / In His freedom I am free / For the love of Jesus Christ who has resurrected me / Praise the Father, praise the Son, praise the Spirit, three in one
- **Action:** Celebrate the Great I Am's goodness to us. Celebrate the Lamb of God who takes away the sins of the world. Celebrate with hoops and hollers. Celebrate with clapping and cheering.
- **Action:** Cry out: "Salvation belongs to our God, who sits on the throne, and to the Lamb."
- **Breath Prayer:** Great I Am. Living in me.
- **Family Activity:** Cover your doorpost in something red (paper, yarn, ribbon, bows). Together as a family, thank the Great I Am. Thank Heaven's perfect Lamb.
- **Pray:** Amen! Praise, glory, wisdom, thanks, honor, power, and strength be to our God for ever and ever. Amen!

Playlist: *The Great I Am* by Philips, Craig and Dean

December 14 — Mary, Did you know that your baby boy has come to make you new?

This child that you've delivered will soon deliver you.

God holds dominion over all creation. Jesus proved His dominion and divinity as He reconciled and restored all things. He makes you new. The old has gone. The new is here! The Great Deliverer is Lord of your life.

Read: Matthew 1:21 / 2 Corinthians 5:17-21 / Romans 6:1-11

Our God is in the business of restoration and transformation. You are no longer a slave; you are free. You are no longer dead; you are alive in Christ. You are no longer your old self; you are being made new through the power of Jesus. You have been delivered from death into life.

Optional Engagements

- **Imagine:** Imagine Mary the mother of Jesus understanding what her son, the Son of God did for her on the cross. Imagine Mary when she sees Jesus after He resurrected. Imagine Mary in Heaven with Jesus.
- **Ponder:** How has Jesus made you new? What within you do you need to keep surrendering to the transforming power of Jesus?
- **Meditate:** All around Hope is springing up from this old ground / Out of chaos life is being found in You / You make beautiful things / You make beautiful things out of the dust / You make beautiful things / You make beautiful things out of us
- **Breath Prayer:**
 - The old has gone, the new is here.
 - I am new in Christ.
- **Activity/Family Activity:** Make butterflies. As you do, focus on and talk about the transforming work of God in you.
- **Activity:** Share with someone a part of your testimony: How has God made you new? What beautiful thing has He brought about?

Playlist: *King of Kings* by Hillsong Worship / *Beautiful Things* by Gungor