²⁶In the sixth month the angel Gabriel was sent from God to a city of Galilee named Nazareth,

²⁷to a virgin betrothed to a man whose name was Joseph,

of the house of David.

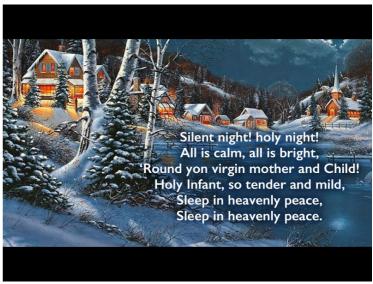
And the virgin's name was Mary.

—Luke 1:26-27 ESV



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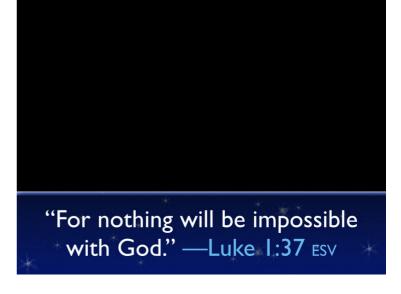




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34And Mary said to the angel, "How will this be, since I am a virgin?" 35And the angel answered her, "The Holy Spirit will come upon you, and the power of the Most High will overshadow you; therefore the Child to be born will be called Holy—the Son of God."

—Luke I:34-35 ESV



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The Glory to God in the Song of Mary

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⁴⁶And Mary said, "My soul magnifies the Lord, ⁴⁷and my spirit rejoices in God my Savior, ⁴⁸for He has looked on the humble estate of His servant. For behold, from now on all generations will call me blessed; ⁴⁹for He who is mighty has done great things for me, and holy is His name.

⁵⁰And His mercy is for those who fear Him from generation to generation. ⁵¹He has shown strength with His arm; He has scattered the proud in the thoughts of their hearts; ⁵²He has brought down the mighty from their thrones and exalted those of humble estate;

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53He has filled the hungry with good things, and the rich He has sent away empty. 54He has helped His servant Israel, in remembrance of His mercy, 55as He spoke to our fathers, to Abraham and to His offspring forever."

-Luke 1:46-55 ESV

Worship: "There is nothing more foundational to our relationship with God and to our lives as Christians." —Bob Kauflin

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"We should consider it the great end of

"We should consider it the great end of our existence to be found numbered among the worshipers of God."—John Calvin ²³But the hour is coming, and is now here, when the true worshipers will worship the Father in spirit and truth, for the Father is seeking such people to worship Him. ²⁴God is Spirit, and those who worship Him must worship in spirit and truth.

—John 4:23-24 ESV

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Warship haging with an understanding

Worship begins with an understanding of God's undeserved and unmerited grace and goodness toward us.

Luke 1:41-45 Elizabeth's Worship
Luke 1:67-69 Zechariah's Worship
Luke 2:11,13 Angels' Worship
Luke 2:20 Shepherds' Worship
Luke 2:25-26 Simeon's Worship
Luke 2:36-38 Anna's Worship
Matthew 2:2 Wise Men's Worship

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"We often lose the wonder of Christmas and seek cheap imitations because we have overlooked and underestimated God's gracious work for us." ¹⁶For God so loved the world, that He gave His only Son, that whoever believes in Him should not perish but have eternal life. ¹⁷For God did not send His Son into the world to condemn the world, but in order that the world might be saved through Him. —John 3:16-17 ESV

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Worship is a continual response of surrender to live

for the glory of God.

Worship rests in the authority and power of God to fulfill His purposes as we wait upon Him.

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³No longer will there be anything accursed, but the throne of God and of the Lamb will be in it, and His servants will worship Him. ⁴They will see His face, and His name will be on their foreheads.

⁵And night will be no more. They will need no light of lamp or sun, for the Lord God will be their light, and they will reign forever and ever.

-Revelation 22:3-5 ESV

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