

Christmas Morning Magnificat

Text: Luke 1:46-55

Theme: Christmas 1

- Merry Christmas everyone! It isn't often that we get to gather on Christmas Day itself and celebrate God's Gift to us - Jesus is Son. But here we are.
- Lynn just read "Mary's Song" of praise recorded in what we now call Luke 1. I love this spontaneous, spirit filled song as Mary grasped what God was doing literally in and through her. In Latin, Mary's first words "My soul glorifies the Lord" were translated "Magnificat"!
- Just note the difference Jesus makes in one single, solitary life. Before Jesus, Mary was an unknown, humble, teenage Jewish girl. If she wasn't chosen to carry the Christ child we would have never have know her in history. But now, because of Jesus, Mary's song – Mary's Magnificat is on par in the Scriptures with the great Prophets and Psalmists of old.
- How Jesus changed Mary. How Jesus changes and is changing us!
- Here for example is an example of one life transformed by the Spirit of Jesus – the Spirit of Christmas. **(Youtube Clip – Scrooge's Transformation – start at 1:35)**
- **I love this portrayal of Conversion! What the spirit of God can do in us to change us from the inside out. Up from the depths of Mary's spirit rose this song of praise and may it serve as our own Christmas morning Magnificat.**
- Following Mary's lead in her song, what reasons have we to rejoice on this Christmas morning?
 1. 1st reason: **Vs. 47! We rejoice this morning because God is our Saviour.** Today in the town of David a Saviour has been born to you – He is Christ the Lord! As I mentioned last Sunday – God has done all of this. He's done it for us because we could not save ourselves. May praise to God well up in us this day and all day as we celebrate what He has done!

2. 2nd reason: **We rejoice because God lifts the humble and scatters the proud.** Vs. 48. This is really the theme of Mary's song. With Jesus coming, the "out" are "in" and the "in" are "out". God has a very special place for those who feel left out. I think Mary, prior to her conceiving the baby Jesus, felt left out. I think she, along with many other in her day, felt like she was forgotten. Her song and ours now celebrate that the greatest among us is now the servant. God gives grace to the humble and he resists the proud. Christmas teaches us this!
3. 3rd reason: **We rejoice because of God's great mercy.** Vs. 50. He is rich in mercy.
4. 4th reason: **We rejoice because God done great things!** Vs. 51ff. What are some of the great things he has done for us in sending Jesus? He has done great things, bless his holy name! That is the Spirit of Mary's song and may it be our song to day and all day! He had done great things for us. He has send us His greatest Gift!

- Merry Christmas!
- Today is the first day of Christmas We've all heard the song "The 12 Days of Christmas" haven't we. Some people have counted them down the 12 days before Christmas. However, the 12 days of Christmas are the 12 days started from December 25 and going to January 6th – Epiphany Sunday – the day we celebrate the arrival of the Magi in Bethlehem to worship Jesus.
- Well, I've prepared a little Christmas gift for you this morning. (Walk through the 12 Days of Christmas devotional guide)