

IS IT OK TO QUESTION GOD?

Joe Svoboda | Luke 1:26-38 | December 15, 2019

ZECHARIAH

Old

Childless

Blameless/Righteous

Priest

Pray-er

MARY

Young

Virgin

Downcast/Humiliated

Favored

Thinker

I Cor 7:6
Acts 8:33

Lk 1:28

Lk 1:29; 2:19, 51

COMPARE QUESTIONS

Zechariah, "How shall I know this?"

Mary, "How will this be?"

When you don't understand why, submit and apply.

SMALL GROUP QUESTIONS

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DISCUSSION

1. Read Luke 1:26-33. What do you think Gabriel's response was when the Lord told him to announce the centerpiece of His unfolding plan for mankind's salvation?
2. Which of Gabriel's descriptions of the Messiah stand out to you? Why?
3. What are similarities and differences between Zechariah's response in Luke 1:18 and Mary's in vv. 34 and 38? How did Gabriel interpret these responses in vv.19-20 and v. 35?
4. Describe a time when you questioned God. What ended up happening?
5. Read Joshua 7:7-12, Exodus 5:22-23 and 6:1, Isaiah 58:1-9a, and Genesis 25:21-23, preferably in NIV. Describe some of the aspects of the questions to God and His response in these verses. What did you learn from reading these?
6. Read the prophesy about John the Baptist in Malachi 3:1 (confirmed by Matthew 11:10) and the prophesy about Jesus in Isaiah 9:1 and 6-7. How do these prophesies and the statements of Gabriel regarding John and Jesus in Luke 1 differ?

APPLICATION

7. What faith action will you take in this Christmas season to begin to fulfill something the Lord has already shown you? It may be to keep a commitment that you have made to the Lord. Or spend significant time in prayer questioning the Lord for direction.