



FIRST BAPTIST CHURCH  
R O C H E S T E R

**Sermon Discussion Guide**  
**December 10, 2023**

**Refresh**

Read Luke 1:26-38 to get the Scripture passage back in your mind.

**Discuss**

In what sense was Mary “favored” by God? What does this tell us about how God chooses those whom He blesses? How might this encourage us as believers today?

In what ways does Gabriel’s description of Jesus point to prophecies in the OT? What did these prophecies tell us about this coming baby?

Read 2 Samuel 7:12-13 together as a group. Why, in particular, would the prophecy concerning the throne of David be so significant?

Read Isaiah 9:6-7 together as a group. What portion of this prophecy is referenced in Gabriel’s message to Mary in our passage? Why is this such good news for us today?

How did God bring it about that a virgin would conceive and give birth to Jesus? Why is the virgin birth a critical part of the story of Jesus? What are the implications we are left with if Jesus were not born of a virgin?

This news Mary received from Gabriel would bring social challenges because she would be pregnant while being betrothed to Joseph. How is Mary’s response in verse 38 an example for us to follow? How does it inform us of how we should respond when met with unexpected and challenging circumstances?

Have you ever been met with overwhelming circumstances in your life? What were the temptations and tensions you faced in that season? What did God teach you about His faithfulness during that time?