

Gospel Beginnings: Luke

What would we have ever done without the evangelist Luke!? In this Advent Season we are reminded that Luke alone also gave us many the stories that happened in the months just before Jesus' birth as well as the classic telling of what we now know as the Christmas Story, including the shepherds, the angels, and a baby lying in a manger. Discover how Luke's opening chapter helps us celebrate the advent of our Savior and repeatedly declares God's salvation.

AWARENESS Before listening reflect on what you already know or understand about topics we'll cover in the episode.

- How do you identify good reporting? What are the characteristics of good reporting?
- Where will you hear the Christmas story this season?



LISTEN TO THE EPISODE: [Gospel Beginnings: Luke](#)

READ [Luke 1](#)

REFLECTION After listening, consider the following questions:

- Have you ever experienced an unexpected event in your life or are you currently struggling with your circumstances? What did it or would it take for you to have faith like Mary, to go from “how can this be?” to “let it be”?
- Are there details of the Luke text that get glossed over or lost in the pageantry of the Christmas story? What sticks out to you after listening to hosts Dave Bast and Scott Hoezee?
- In segment 2, Scott notes Luke's propensity for elevating the poor and marginalized and identifies this as one of the gospel's key themes. Where else do you see this theme in scripture? Do you think this theme comes through in most retellings of the Christmas story? Why or why not?
- At the close of segment 3, Dave and Scott discuss the song of the angels and the power of music. Is there a particular piece of music, a particular Christian hymn, or a song that has had an impact on your faith life? Why is it meaningful?

RELATED PASSAGES for further study

[Luke 16:19-31](#), [Psalm 113](#), [Psalm 23](#)

CONCLUSION

Think about your Christmas traditions. In what ways do they reflect or incorporate Mary's faith? What about Luke's emphasis on the poor and marginalized? What are some small ways you could add to or alter your traditions to increase awareness about these details of the Christmas story?

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