

Growth Teams

**Week Beginning
Sunday 6th March 2016**

Going deeper

In Genesis, God had promised Abraham that his descendants would be both numerous and live in the land of Canaan (Gen. 13:14-17). By the beginning of the book of Exodus, Abraham's descendants are numerous, but slaves in Egypt crying out for liberation (Ex. 1:7; 2:23-25). The first part of the book then tells the story of how God rescued the people of Israel from slavery in Egypt, giving them Moses as their leader. In this section God explains his plans and motives to Moses

Read Exodus 6:1-8

4. Which words or phrases from this passage are echoed in Mary's song (Luke 1:46-55)?

5. Who is proud, powerful and rich in the Exodus story? What will God make him do?

6. Who are the 'poor and hungry' in the Exodus story? What does God promise to do for them?

7. What does God say his reasons are for rescuing Israel from Egypt?

8. Mary understands the God who acted in the Exodus to be the same God who sent Jesus. What lessons about how God acts can we learn from Exodus?

Now do the applying it to our lives questions...

Growth Teams

Growth Teams are a wonderful opportunity to go deeper with other Christians. They are a great place to build real friendships and support networks, to pray for one another and to look more carefully at the topics we consider on a Sunday.

Daytime Growth Teams continue as normal, whilst the Faith Pictures course has its last session this Tuesday. We will have a special meeting on Tuesday 22nd March to discuss the evening Growth Team(s) post-Easter.



**Growing in Christ
to glorify God
and enjoy Him forever.**

Luke 1:46-55 (page 1026)

What attitudes should we avoid?

Space to take notes on the talk

The Joy of a _____

God is M_____:

God is M_____:

Starter question

- ❖ How did you feel when you discovered you or a close relative or friend were pregnant?

Responding to the talk

1. What point from this week's talk most challenged or encouraged you?
2. Read Luke 1:46-50
 - a. How does Mary describe herself in these verses?
 - b. How does she describe God and his characteristics?
 - c. In what ways is Mary's situation the same as any Christian's and in what ways is it unique?
 - d. How does the song make you feel?
3. Read Luke 1:51-55
 - a. List all the 'mighty deeds' of God in these verses.
 - b. Who does God act against in these verses?
 - c. Why is God against these people? (cf. 1 Cor. 1:26-29)
 - d. Who does God help in these verses?
 - e. What are God's motives for helping these people?

You may like to do the 'Going Deeper' questions over the page.

Applying it to our lives

9. You have a friend who says they do not need God, because they are well off, happy and fulfilled. How might Mary's song challenge their attitude? What might you say to them to make them reconsider their thinking?
10. A Christian friend is feeling worthless. How might you encourage them using what you have learnt this week?