

# Jumping for Joy!



## GROWTH GUIDE DECEMBER 22, 2024

The Fourth Sunday of Advent

*Scripture: Luke 1:39-45*

### AUTHOR

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### CONTEXT

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### DISCUSSION QUESTIONS

1. Today we light the 4th candle on the Advent Wreath as a reminder of love. How are you showing love in this Advent Season? Is God calling you to love someone who may be difficult to love? How is this challenging you?
2. Read Luke 1:1-4. How does Luke describe his writing process and purpose of writing his gospel?
3. Read Luke 1:39-45. What stands out to you in this passage – a word or phrase that particularly speaks to you?
4. Why do you think Mary went to visit Elizabeth? What was the response of Elizabeth's baby and Elizabeth at the sound of Mary's voice?

5. Jesus was both fully human and fully divine. Read Hebrews 4:15-16. How does Jesus understand our experiences as human beings and our struggles?
6. Jesus is also God. Read Colossians 2:13-15. What does Jesus have the power to do?
7. How does the angel, Gabriel, explain how Jesus will be conceived? Read Luke 1:35.
8. The author of this gospel, Luke, was a physician. He carefully researched, and legend has it he even talked with Mary, about the details he includes in the first 2 chapters he wrote. Jesus' birth from a virgin was a miracle. Do you think Luke struggled with this, being trained as a physician? Do you struggle with it?
9. Why do you think the Virgin birth is important to our faith?
10. Does the fact that Luke records this as fact encourage your own belief in the virgin birth?
11. Read verse 42. How did Elizabeth describe Mary and her child and what does Elizabeth refer to Mary as in verse 43? Do you find that obedience brings blessing, even when it's hard?
12. Both Elizabeth and Mary responded with faithfulness to their blessings. How can we learn and grow from their faithfulness?

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