

This discussion guide is designed for Saylorville Church Community Groups as they meet and apply God's Word each week. The sermons and guides can be found each week at www.saylorvillechurch.com/sermons.

CONNECT WITH YOUR GROUP (10-15 MINUTES)

- Rate the following on the “believability” scale (1 = Ain’t no way, 5 = Maybe/Maybe Not, 10 = Absolutely):
 - The existence of Bigfoot
 - Man has landed on the moon
 - Elvis Presley is dead
 - The earth is flat
 - Jesus was born of a virgin
- Now look at each statement again. What might be different in your life if you truly believed each one?

APPLY THE BIBLE (45-60 MINUTES)

- **Remember** what you talked about last time. Is there anything you need to **follow up** on this week?
- **Review** your Sermon Notes together. What is **one thing** that sticks out to you about what you learned?
- **Read** this week’s passage together. In his message, **Pastor Pat reminded us that “belief” is synonymous with the Christmas story.**

Luke 1:26-38 - Do You Believe?

1. As a group, talk about several ways that Jesus’ birth was different than every other birth in history.
2. Brainstorm quickly: What are some aspects of Jesus’ birth that people have a hard time believing?
3. Compare Zechariah’s response to the angel Gabriel (Luke 1:18-20) with Mary’s response (Luke 1:38). What are some differences? Put yourself in the story - how do you think you might have responded in both of those moments?
4. Read verse 28 out loud. Pastor Pat said, “Just because some think too much of Mary doesn’t give us the right to think too little of her.” How should we think and feel about Mary?
5. Theologically, Jesus was sinless because Joseph was not his biological father. He was born of the virgin Mary. How does Romans 5:12 help us understand the implications of this truth?
6. Mary teaches us several important truths about faith. Which of these stands out to you?
 - **Faith might say:** How, me? Help me! Unbelievable!
 - **Faith never says:** Why me? Not me! Impossible!
7. “Nothing is impossible with God” (Luke 1:37). What are you believing in God for right now?

Receive and Respond: What will I do because of what I just heard?

PRAY TOGETHER (5-15 MINUTES)

- Thank God that He is able to make the impossible possible. In faith, ask Him to do great and mighty things in your life and in the lives of those you love this Christmas.

