

2

Mary

Believing the Impossible

Luke 1:26-38, 46-56



We often use the phrase “Nothing is impossible with God.” Mary, however, is called upon not just to use this phrase, but to believe it.

GROUP DISCUSSION. When do you have trouble believing God?

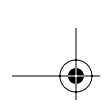
PERSONAL REFLECTION. In what ways has God demonstrated to you that he is trustworthy?



Gabriel’s sign to Mary that God can do anything is the pregnancy of her cousin, Elizabeth. *Read Luke 1:26-38.*

1. Think of yourself as Mary, a teenage girl. Tell the story of the encounter with Gabriel to your best friend.





14 ————— *Women of the New Testament*

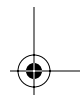
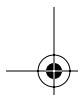
2. What things was Mary asked to believe?

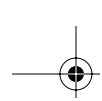
3. How would you have responded if it were you?

4. How does Mary's question to Gabriel (v. 34) contrast with Zechariah's question (v. 18)?

5. What do you learn about Mary and her relationship with God in verse 38?

6. How would you like your relationship with God to be more like Mary's?





Mary _____ 15

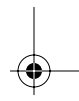
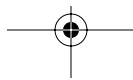
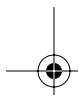
7. How would Mary's life be complicated by what was going to happen to her?

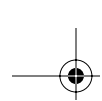
8. In light of these complications how might she have responded to God?



9. Read Luke 1:46-56. What attitudes and feelings toward God does Mary express in these verses?

10. How does Mary see and bring together God's work in history and God's work in her future?





11. Why do you think Mary was able to believe God for the impossible?

12. What steps do you need to take for your response to and faith in God to become more like that of Mary?



Pray that your response to and faith in God will grow.



Now or Later

Write a prayer to God. In it include praise for who he is, gratitude for his work in history—including your own personal history—and thank him for his hope for the future. Thank him for sending Jesus.

