

40
DAYS
LUKE



Welcome...

40 days isn't very long. But it's long enough to take a journey through Luke's Gospel while taking some time out to reflect, think and pray.

Luke tells us that in writing his Gospel he 'carefully investigated everything from the beginning... so that you may know the certainty of the things you have been taught' (1:3,4). He includes many details of Jesus' life and teaching that we get nowhere else, including his childhood time in the Temple, the parable of the Prodigal Son (or sons), and the encounter on the road to Emmaus.

Through Luke's account, we see Jesus' passion for the poor, and ministry in the power of the Holy Spirit. Jesus spends time with people from all levels of society: from proud Pharisees to rich tax-collectors to outcast widows. He is both Israel's promised King, come to the Jews at last, and the Saviour of Gentiles who sends his disciples to all nations.

Come and spend time with Jesus. Prepare to be amazed, baffled, challenged and delighted by him as you encounter him through his Word. Talk to him, listen to him, and discover again the wonder of who he is and all he has done for you.

Caleb Woodbridge



Day 2

²⁶ In the sixth month of Elizabeth's pregnancy, God sent the angel Gabriel to Nazareth, a town in Galilee, ²⁷ to a virgin pledged to be married to a man named Joseph, a descendant of David. The virgin's name was Mary.

²⁸ The angel went to her and said, 'Greetings, you who are highly favoured! The Lord is with you.'

²⁹ Mary was greatly troubled at his words and wondered what kind of greeting this might be. ³⁰ But the angel said to her, 'Do not be afraid, Mary, you have found favour with God. ³¹ You will conceive and give birth to a son, and you are to call him Jesus. ³² He will be great and will be called the Son of the Most High. The Lord God will give him the throne of his father David, ³³ and he will reign over Jacob's descendants for ever; his kingdom will never end.'

³⁴ 'How will this be,' Mary asked the angel, 'since I am a virgin?'

³⁵ The angel answered, 'The Holy Spirit will come on you, and the power of the Most High will overshadow you. So the holy one to be born will be called the Son of God.

³⁶ Even Elizabeth your relative is going to have a child in her old age, and she who was said to be unable to conceive is in her sixth month. ³⁷ For no word from God will ever fail.'

³⁸ 'I am the Lord's servant,' Mary answered. 'May your word to me be fulfilled.' Then the angel left her.

Luke 1:26–38



Day 2

Christmas time can lull us into being fooled by cute cherubs on Christmas cards or familiar readings about angels, read in a monotone. Our passage is alive with emotion: hear the angel reassuring Mary, ‘Do not be afraid!’ (v 30). The reason for the reassurance? She was terrified!

Mary was troubled (v 29) and fearful (v 30). Looking at the angel’s message we can see why: she was told that a baby would be conceived by God’s power, that her child would reign for ever and that he would be the Son of God.

Sample

As Mary is presented with this astounding news, it’s understandable that her first response is to ask a question: ‘How will this be?’ (v 34). Is there something God is asking of you that you feel you’re unable to do?

.....

.....

.....

.....

.....

.....

.....

.....



Day 2

The angel's answer was, 'Nothing is impossible with God' (v 37). How would Mary respond? Submitting herself to God's plan would have huge costs for her.

What step of faith could you take today based on God's Word? As you consider the cost to you, why not meditate on verse 38?

**'I am the Lord's servant ...
May your word to me be fulfilled.'**

You could also listen to Handel's Messiah, 'Wonderful Counsellor' (you're bound to be able to find it online), praising the One to whom you're responding in faith.