



## INTRODUCTION

## Down to Earth—Part 3

Though Jesus was the Son of God and Creator of the universe, He chose to enter this world under amazingly modest circumstances—as a baby, born to an ordinary couple, and placed in a trough. The angels even announced His birth to the humble shepherds, not to civic or religious leaders. Although the details are simple, the birth of Jesus is remarkable.

This new series, Down to Earth, will explore how this extraordinary event has had an impact in all of our lives.

## DISCUSSION QUESTIONS

1. What makes a person *down to earth*? Share about someone in your life who is *down to earth*. What do you admire about them?
2. Today we continued our series Down To Earth and we looked at Mary's example of humble, obedient, service to God.
  - An angel appeared separately to Mary and Joseph to announce their role in the birth of the Messiah. Read Luke 1:26-38 and also Matthew 1:18-25.
  - Now, women in the group, try to put yourself in Mary's shoes. Men in the group, try to put yourself in Joseph's shoes. What are you thinking, feeling, and processing when you receive this amazing, life-altering news from God?
  - How do you think you would have responded to the angel's message?
3. Humble, Obedient, Servant of God—Based on these two passages...
  - How were Mary and Joseph humble?
  - How were they obedient?
  - How did they serve God?
4. Humble, Obedient, Servant of God - in which of these would you most like to grow? Practically, what would growth look like in your day-to-day life?
5. God chose Mary to bring Jesus into the world. God chose us to share Jesus with the world. Who have you invited / who are you inviting to the Christmas services? Pray and encourage one another to share the Good News with others.

## APPLICATION

Throughout this series we have explored how the birth of Jesus was an incredibly “down to earth” experience. It was not a majestic event, but a humble story in every way. In today's message we discuss Mary, the mother of Jesus.

The main question is—are we like Mary? She was chosen to be the mother of Jesus, yet she was simply a humble, obedient, servant of God. Do those words describe you? We should strive to show each of these qualities in our lives—be humble over being prideful, more obedient than disobedient, and a servant to God and others as opposed to being selfish.

## KEY VERSES (HCSB)

Luke 1:26-38

Isaiah 7:14

1 Corinthians 15:22

Philippians 2:3-8