

Luke 1:26-45

The story of Jesus' birth is rich with the imminent presence of God and the blessings that His presence brings. This Sunday we looked at three blessings found in Luke's narrative (story). Do you remember what they were?

Read Mary's song following the blessings of Elizabeth in 1:46-55.

This song is commonly known as "the magnificent" and is still sung in some churches, especially this time of year. It is saturated with Old Testament truths about the God who delivers the downtrodden. This song is divided into four parts.

One: Verses 46-48 is praise to God for what He has done for Mary. Take some time right now and count your blessings. Write them down and then take some time to praise the Lord for His work in your life.

Two: verses 49-50 mention certain attributes of God: mighty (power), holy, merciful. How can your reliance of this kind of God change your outcome on any situation you are in?

Three: Verses 51-53 show God's sovereign action in reversing certain social conditions. Think about some of the unjust things that have happened to you. He is the same yesterday, today and forever. Pray right now for the Lord's sovereign hand to touch your life and change what was intended to harm you into something good (Gen 50:19-20).

Four: Recall God's mercy in verses 54-55. It is said that hindsight is 20/20. Encourage yourself by looking at how you have seen the hand of God move in your life when you needed a miracle. Look back at times when you were fearful of a certain outcome. Now, sitting on the other side, wasn't He faithful? Remind yourself so that you can build your faith right now for what you face today.

Close by reading Psalm 145.