

NOTE TO PARENTS from Ps Luke Aiasecca

Thank you for the privilege of ministering to your family through Kidmania Online. Today's Kidmania Online episode was **MARY & MOTHERS' DAY!**

This parent info sheet can be used by you at home to support your Kidmania experience WITH your children and help them to get the most out of it.

The 'main ideas' section of this parent info sheet has been designed especially for you to enter into meaningful discussion with your children.

To help your children really share what is in their hearts and minds with you, and so YOU can actively build faith and wisdom into them, when it comes to the 'Ask' points, take care to not rush them... give them time to think and respond and really show them you are listening and that you understand.

We are here to support you! If you have any questions you would like to discuss please contact your location Kidmania co-ordinator or email me at luke.aiasecca@enjoy.church
God bless you!

Family Ice Breaker – Mother's Day Morning Celebrations

This is a fun way to introduce what you will be talking about as a family.

Today, we fully expect that families will be way ahead of us in the Mothers' Day celebrations in their homes, having breakfast together with gifts, cards, and hugs, church at home, and Kidmania Online – so that will be the ice breaker – done!

Today's Scripture References – Luke 1:26 to Luke 2:39

1. Read through Luke 1:26-38 and Luke 2:1-39.
2. Retell the story in your own words or read it aloud (check for understanding as you go)
3. Watch Online - Mary's story today was told using an excerpt from the SUPERBOOK episode: Gabriel visits Mary. <https://us-en.superbook.cbn.com/video/gabriel-visits-mary>

4. Read, Repeat & Recite the memory verses (now and at mealtimes this week)

Proverbs 31:25

She is clothed with strength and dignity; she can laugh at the days to come.

Proverbs 31:25

She opens her mouth with wisdom, and the teaching of kindness is on her tongue.

Proverbs 31:31

Honor her for all that her hands have done, and let her works bring her praise at the city gate [among everyone she knows].

Proverbs 22:6

Train up a child in the way God wants them to be, so that when they are old they know who they are and do not depart from it.

Galatians 5:22-23

But the fruit of the Spirit is love, joy, peace, patience, kindness, goodness, faithfulness, gentleness, and self-control; against such things there is no law.

The Main Ideas for Family Discussion

Topic introduction & Discussion:

Ask: What would have been the really exciting things about being the one God chose to carry Jesus into the world?

Ask: What would have been the not so good things about being the one God chose to carry Jesus into the world?

[answers may include:

* Mary had to give birth in a stable

* Mary would have been a mum who like most mums loved and served her kids and always put them first going without many things (not everything about being a mum is fun)

* Mary had to flee to Egypt to save Jesus' life (from the bad king who didn't like that King Jesus was born).

* Mary had to see Jesus go to the cross when He was saving the world and this would have been very hard for her.

You might explain to your kids that Mary was not married to Joseph yet. Having a baby while not yet having a husband is upside down in how God had taught His people to have families; first you have a husband, and then you have a baby. But God did not need Mary to have a husband first because Joseph was not Jesus' actual father (though he lovingly raised Him as if He was his own). God super-naturally placed in Mary what she needed to have a baby, and so God Himself was Jesus' father. This had never been done before and so people in Mary's community judged her as having done something very wrong. Mary had to wait to the end of Jesus' life to be believed about how she came to be pregnant with Jesus. We now call Mary 'blessed' because rather than being wrong, she had played an important part in God giving the world the greatest gift of all – Jesus! by saying YES to God and sacrificing her own comfort, and her good reputation (for more than 30 years). Mums do so much to honor God and care for their children, more than they care for themselves. Mary was one of those very special mums]

Memory Verse challenge:

[turn the page over to the **Today's Scripture References** section]

Family activity:

Make a list - Make a THANKFUL FOR HER LIST for all the ways in which you have been blessed by your mum. This is an activity for every member in the family.

* Dads in the house may choose to write a list about their mum/mother figure and their wife.

* Mums in the house may choose to write a list about their mum/mother figure/sister/friend etc. in their world.

* Kids may choose to make a list about their mum and their grandmother/s and other special women in their world, like stepmothers/aunties/big sisters/cousins and other wonderful female family friends.

Make it known - Today, or over the next week you might like to call them or send them a card, an SMS, or video message letting them know how much you appreciate them, and why.

Let's pray!

Dear Heavenly Father... We thank You for mums and we thank you for the gift of all the wonderful women in our world. We thank you for all the things on our THANKFUL FOR HER LISTS like [list a few things]. Help us to always honor all they do and give thanksgiving to you for them. We ask You really especially bless them today ...in Jesus' Name, Amen!

