

HAVE YOU LISTENED TO THE SONG?

From the **prophecies** made before Jesus' birth we gain more understanding of what Jesus' coming was to **accomplish in our life**.

THE MESSAGE:

Luke 1:26 - 38 (NLT) In the sixth month of Elizabeth's pregnancy, God sent the angel Gabriel to Nazareth, a village in Galilee, to a virgin named Mary. She was engaged to be married to a man named Joseph, a descendant of King David. Gabriel appeared to her and said, 'Greetings, favored woman! The Lord is with you! Confused and disturbed, Mary tried to think what the angel could mean. Don't be frightened, Mary,' the angel told her, 'for God has decided to bless you! You will become pregnant and have a son, and you are to name him Jesus. He will be very great and will be called the Son of the Most High. And the Lord God will give him the throne of his ancestor David. And he will reign over Israel forever; his Kingdom will never end! Mary asked the angel, 'But how can I have a baby? I am virgin.' The angel replied, 'The Holy Spirit will come upon you, and the power of the Most High will overshadow you. So the baby born to you will be holy, and he will be called the Son of God. What's more, your relative Elizabeth has become pregnant in her old age! People used to say she was barren, but she's already in her sixth month. For nothing is impossible with God.' Mary responded, 'I am the Lord's servant, and I am willing to accept whatever he wants. May everything you have said come true.' And then the angel left.

THE RESPONSE:

Luke 1:46 - 55 (NLT) Mary responded, 'Oh, how I praise the Lord. How I rejoice in God my Savior! For he took notice of his lowly servant girl, and now generation after generation will call me blessed. For he, the Mighty One, is holy, and he has done great things for me. His mercy goes on from generation to generation, to all who fear him. His mighty arm does tremendous things! How he scatters the proud and haughty ones! He has taken princes from their thrones and exalted the lowly. He has satisfied the hungry with good things and sent the rich away with empty hands. And now he has helped his servant Israel! He has not forgotten his promise to be merciful. For he promised our ancestors--Abraham and his children-- to be merciful to them forever.'

Mary's song emphasizes the theme of **deliverance**.

Mary's song praised God for bringing **justice** into the world and bring **hope** to those who have none.

Churches who have their sleeves rolled up and who **give a cup of cold water** in Jesus' name to those in need will also be able to share **Jesus as the ultimate hope for their souls**.