

Weekly Sermon Discussion Guide

May 12, 2019

Maundy Thursday, the Annunciation, and Mother's Day

LUKE

Luke 1:13, Luke 22:42, Exodus 20:12

EXPLORING THE SERMON

- What did you hear?
- What did you think or feel about what you heard?
- What is one thing you can take away from the sermon this week?

KEY VERSES

³⁸ *Then Mary said, "Here am I, the servant of the Lord; let it be with me according to your word."* **Luke 1:38**

⁴² *"Father, if you are willing, remove this cup from me; yet, not my will but yours be done."* **Luke 22:42**

¹² *Honor your father and your mother, so that your days may be long in the land that the LORD your God is giving you.* **Exodus 20:12**

DISCUSSION AND REFLECTION

As we look closely at the stories in the Bible, we begin to see more than a random selection of stories, but common threads and themes of God's hope and love for each of us. If we look at these three passages not as three independent stories, we will be able to see their connection in a very unique way.

In **Luke 1:26**, Mary is visited by the angel Gabriel who delivers to her the news that she would be the mother of the Messiah. In spite of the social implications that this situation would render, her ultimate response is, *"Here I am, a servant of the Lord, let it be with me according to your word."*

In **Luke 22:42**, Jesus pleads with God atop the Mount of Olives as his capture and death become imminent, *"Father, if you are willing, remove this cup from me; yet, not my will but yours be done."*

Looking at these two passages together instead of as two separate stories, what threads do you see that tie them together? How may have Jesus been reflecting the best parts of his mother, who had molded and shaped him for decades?

The Tenth Commandment, from **Exodus 20:12** reads: *Honor your father and your mother, so that your days may be long in the land that the LORD your God is giving you."*

What does honor mean to you, and how is it more than just "being nice?"

Consider the legacy of those who have shaped the decisions you have made and the life you have lived. **Who are those people, and what about them specifically has shaped you? How can that legacy become part of who you are? Thomas encouraged us to let those people know the difference they have made in our life, as this could mean more than anything.**

Heavenly Father, help us to see the hope and love you have for each of us through your Word, and embrace it as a blueprint for our lives. Encourage us through those you have placed in our lives who have molded and shaped us, and help us to celebrate them and allow their legacy to become part of who we are. Amen.