

### **Advent Week 3 – Luke 1:39-45 (ESV)**

Ask the Lord to give you an understanding of His word today and to show you how you might apply it to your faith walk.

Read the passage noted above.

One other thing that Gabriel told Mary was “And behold, your relative Elizabeth in her old age has also conceived a son, and this is the sixth month with her who was called barren.” Luke 1:36

According to Luke 1:39-40, when and where did Mary go and what did Mary do?

Mary’s travel was a three-day journey which consisted of rough terrain with a lot of walking and possible, at best, riding on a donkey. She must have been curious to see how Elizabeth was doing and/or perhaps needed the wisdom of an older lady for what laid ahead of her.

What happens to Elizabeth before she speaks to Mary, vs 41?

Gabriel spoke to Elizabeth’s husband Zechariah about the coming of their son John the Baptist (Recorded in Luke 1:5-24). What did Gabriel note in verse 15 about John the Baptist that relates to vs. 41?

Note how Elizabeth responded in vs. 42 and what does her response denote?

*The Strong’s Concordance meaning for the word “blessed is to speak well of, i.e. (religiously) to bless (thank or invoke a benediction upon, prosper): - bless, praise*

Who does Elizabeth say is blessed in this verse?

Elizabeth being filled with the Holy Spirit was prompted to speak these two blessings.

What is learned about Elizabeth's disposition in verse 43, and what does she prophesy to Mary about the child in her womb?

In verse 44, Elizabeth tells Mary about the reaction of her baby in her womb to her greeting when she arrived. How does she describe the baby's leaping?

*Strong's meaning for the word "joy" is exultation; specially, welcome: -- gladness, (exceeding) joy.*

Again, in verse 45, Elizabeth said Mary was blessed. What reason did she give for this state?

Strong's uses a different meaning for the word "blessed" in this verse than in verse 42 and it is: *supremely blest; by extension, fortunate, well off:-- blessed, happy(X-ier)*

How can you experience such a blessing in your life?

Read verses 42-45 again. How do you think Elizabeth's inspired words through the work of Holy Spirit impacted Mary?

In Elizabeth's day the Holy Spirit came and filled God's children for a limited time. Read John 14:15-17, 26; 15:26; 16:7-8; Acts 1:8; Romans 8:10-11, 26-27; and 1 Corinthians 3:16) What do you learn from the verses about the Holy Spirit? (Additional verses to study about the Holy Spirit can be found in a concordance.

What stood out to you in this Advent reading? How will you respond to what you read? Ask God for the grace to do so. Ask God for an opportunity to share something you learned from this study with someone else. It could make a difference in their life.

Continue to meditate on these verses this week.