



On Sunday we began our Advent series looking at some of the prayers from the first few chapters of the book of Luke. We began by looking at Mary's song ("the Magnificat"), especially verses 46-49, and we'll go on to look at the second half of Mary's song in two weeks time.

It might be useful to read over Luke 1:26-56.

Here are a few questions that may be useful for your groups:

- Mary's song picks up on themes from throughout scripture- one example is Hannah's prayer in 1 Samuel 2:1-10. What similarities and contrasts can you see between these?
- In verses 46 and 47 we see Mary rejoicing as she praises God- is our worship and prayer typically joyful? What makes this difficult? How might we be able to grow in this?
- In verse 48 we see that the Lord is "mindful" even of one as humble as Mary. The same could be said of us! In what ways is it encouraging or challenging that the Lord knows us completely?
- In verse 49 (and on) we see that Mary grounds her praise in knowledge of God's character, shown in history... how would you sum up what she sees? Does this give us similar grounds for confidence?