

**Next Steps:** We sometimes look at the characters and experiences of the people we read about in the Bible and think that those people must have been somehow extra special. That is why God called them to do what He called them to do. The Apostle Paul would disagree with that thinking.

Read 1 Corinthians 1:26-30. Paul says the people of the Church in Corinth are “called & chosen.” What words does Paul use to describe them? Where does our redemption, righteousness & holiness come from?

Read Luke 1:31-35. What was Mary’s High Calling? What question did she have about this calling? How did God respond to her question? Why do you think God responded differently to Zechariah’s question (Luke 1:18-20) than He did to Mary’s question?

Read Luke 1:36, 39-45. How does God give assurance to Mary that He can and will do what He says? What other examples in the Bible can you think of that give you assurance in God’s power? Write down a few names and describe how God worked through those people.

Read Luke 1:37. What did the angel Gabriel say about God’s words? Read Joshua 21:45; Joshua 23:45; Isaiah 55:9-11; 2 Peter 1:19-21.

Read Luke 1:38. How did Mary respond to God’s call on her life?

Read Hebrews 11. How did these people respond to God’s call on their lives? According to Hebrews 11:1 & 6, how should we respond to God’s call on our lives?

**Next Week:** Please join us for the 4<sup>th</sup> Sunday of Advent as we take a look at Mary’s Song of response to God Calling on her life. You can read her son in Luke 1:46-56.