

LifeGroup Study SheetDec 11th and 14th, 2025 – No Room: Selfishness

This guide is designed to give helpful hints in preparing for your group discussion.

Quick Review

Look back from your sermon notes – Was there anything that particularly challenged you from this sermon? Anything you didn't understand, agree with or connect with?

Introduction

What's a time you've received surprising news – good or challenging – and how did you react at first? If you saw an angel today, and it talked with you, what do you think would be the first thing out of your mouth?

Digging In

Question 1: Luke 1:26-38. Pastor Jeff talked about the story of Mary finding out her calling from God. We see in this story that Mary **was full of humility**. In verses 28-29, Mary is stunned, not entitled, by God's favor. When Gabriel calls Mary "highly favored", she is troubled by such a statement. How does this interaction show the humility Mary had? How does Mary's response in her song (v. 47-48) reflect her posture towards the Lord? How do you practice humility in God's calling in your life today?

Question 2: Read Luke 1:31-35. Pastor Jeff also talked about Mary not being selfish because she was "**full of grace.**" It is important to understand that when the angel called her "highly favored" that this means she is the object of God's gracious action. Mary is not the dispenser of grace. Luke 1:30 says that she has found grace, not produced it! How does this reminder help us as Christ followers that we are recipients of grace? Interact with this idea: Mary is considered "favored" before she speaks, agrees, or acts! Grace precedes obedience. How does this challenge any misconceptions or assumptions about trying to earn God's approval in your life?

Question 3: Read Luke 1:38. We see that Mary in this verse has no room for selfishness because she is a "**servant of the Lord.**" How does Mary's response reveal her understanding of her identity and posture before the Lord? How does her lack of hesitation show her trust towards the Lord? Think about the cost of this type of obedience – Her reputation of being pregnant before marriage. Her comfort? Her expectations for her own life? How does this challenge you in these categories when it comes to being a servant for the Lord?

How is surrender different from passively letting your life just happen?

"You are not saved by your good works, but you are saved unto good works." – Pastor Tim Keller -

Mary's "yes" is the fruit of grace, not the price of it.

How does knowing grace is a gift change the way you say “yes” to God?

Praise / Prayer Requests

Pray for your group with these things in mind:

Adoration – How can I praise God for what this teaches me?

Confession – What sin can I confess because of what this teaches me?

Thanksgiving – How can I thank God for what Jesus has done?

Supplication – What do I need to ask of God in order to grow in light of this?