

Faith Journey

Monday, 11-30-09 – Read **Philippians 2:5**

My Observations _____

A Question to Answer: Jesus is God. From John 1, we know that he was there with God from the beginning. He was in the presence of God; he was being worshipped and adored. And he decided to come to earth, not as a king, but as a servant. Why do you think it is important that Jesus came to earth in this way?

Tuesday, 12-01-09 – Read **Philippians 2:6**

My Observations: _____

A Question to Answer: We see two things in this passage. First, that Jesus has the very nature of God. Second, that he didn't see it something to be grasped. It could also be translated that he did not see his divinity as something that should be selfishly hoarded. How did Jesus use his equality with God while he was on Earth? How should we respond to his divinity?

Wednesday, 12-02-2009 – Read **Philippians 2:7-8**

My Observations: _____

A Question to Answer: Jesus didn't give up his divine characteristics when he came to earth, but he did become fully human. He felt pain, temptation, joy...and everything else that comes with life. Why do you think it is important that Jesus did this?

Thursday, 12-03-09 – Read **Philippians 2:9-11**

My Observations: _____

A Question to Answer: Because Jesus was obedient, not just in his death, but with his life, God exalted him. Jesus came so that we could know the heart of God; that God deeply cares for us and wants us to know Him. How does this passage of scripture say we are to respond to Jesus?

Friday, 12-04-09 – Read **Luke 1:26-29**

My Observations: _____

A Question to Answer: This is where Mary finds out that she is going to be asked to do something huge for God. I think it's

interesting that Gabriel greeted her by saying that she was highly favored by God. And then she was surprised by his words. She probably was living a normal life and didn't think of herself as being anything super special that God would be able to use. Why do you think God chose to use Mary? Why do you think she was "highly favored."

Saturday, 12-05-09 – Read Luke 1:30-33

My Observations: _____

A Question to Answer: This is Gabriel telling Mary what she was going to do. According to tradition, Mary was probably 12 to 14 years old. She was a virgin who was about to be married. What could some of her concerns been about doing what God had asked.

Sunday, 12-06-09 – Read Luke 1:34-38

My Observations: _____

A Question to Answer: Mary had excuses to why she shouldn't do this. She probably had some plans that she wanted to do and having a son that wasn't of her husband probably wasn't one of them. And she answers by simply saying, "I am the Lord's servant." She put God's plans over her own. Have you ever felt God wanted you to do something for Him? How did you respond?

My Faith Journal, November 29, 2009
Mary's Plans / Advent

What do I hear God saying to me today?

What action do I intend to take this week?

Each day this week, take a few minutes. Begin with PRAYER. Then READ through the Bible passage indicated on the inside of this guide. WRITE down your own thoughts, reactions, observations. ANSWER THE QUESTION to begin connecting the Bible with your life. Use additional paper or your own notebook if you need more space to write.