

Grow in confidence – with Luke's Gospel

LIFE GROUP MATERIAL

1st Meeting **THEME: How hope and joy come back**

Prepare yourself. Pray for your Life Group's meeting. At home read Luke 1:1-38

20.00 – 20.10 Start At times we may feel uncertain or unstable with respect to our faith in the Gospel and in Jesus Christ. Luke wrote his Gospel in order that Theophilus and all readers would have certainty (see Ch. 1:4). Which kind of feelings of uncertainty have you experienced most? 1) Doubts concerning the reliability – is it true? 2) Doubts concerning yourself – is it for me, am I still included? 3) Doubts concerning the relevance of it all – does it change anything?

20.10 – 20.15 Pray Ask God that through his Word you may all grow in your confidence in his Gospel.

20.15 – 20.40 Bible passage **Read: Luke 1:26-38 twice**

Look again at verses 26-27 **Setting of the scene**

- What was Israel's hope concerning David's house?
- Was the visit of Gabriel on behalf of God to Mary long expected or unexpected?

Look again at verses 28-29 **Gabriel introduces his message**

- Zechariah was greatly troubled at the sight of Gabriel, Mary at the saying of Gabriel. Why is this mentioned?

Look again at verses 30-34: **Gabriel delivers his message**

- What – in your own words – is the message Mary received from Gabriel?
- How does Mary respond and how is her response different from Zechariah's?

Look again at verses 35-38: **Gabriel explains and confirms his message**

- How is Mary's question dealt with by Gabriel?
- What do you think of Mary's response?

20.40 – 20.50 Digging deeper: how hope and joy come back

When you read further in chapter one, you see that both Mary and Zechariah will be transformed by the message they have heard - though for Zechariah it would still take some time. Both sing out for joy and are filled with hope. Take some time to think of these questions:

Am I filled with hope at the moment?

What does God tell me through the passage of tonight?

Share!

20.50 – 21.00 End Take enough time to pray for each other.