

# Studies in the Life of Christ

## NT Survey Lesson 1--Luke 1

**Introduction:** The story of Jesus begins with John. The miraculous circumstances accompanying John's birth confirmed God's choice of him as His spokesman and the prophesied forerunner of the Christ. While these events were transpiring, Gabriel announced to Mary the wonderful things that would happen to her, revealing God's purpose for the child to be conceived in her by the Holy Spirit.

**Lesson aim:** To demonstrate that the evidence concerning John's birth proves that he was the prophesied forerunner of the Christ.

### Luke's introduction--Luke 1:1-4

1. Was it common for Christians to compile accounts of Jesus' life after His resurrection? (v. 1)
2. Who were the eye-witnesses and servants of the word to which Luke refers? (v. 2)
3. To whom did Luke write and for what purpose? (v. 3) How did Luke affirm the accuracy of the things he wrote? (v. 3-4)

### An angel announces John's birth--Luke 1:5-25

1. Name the parents of John (v. 5). Of what tribe were they?
2. What kind of people were they? (v. 6)
3. Why were they childless? (v. 7)
4. Describe the appearance by the angel to Zacharias (v. 8-12)
5. What testimony did the angel give about John? (v. 13-17)
6. Using a reference Bible see if you can find the passage(s) to which the angel might have been referring in his description of John (v. 17)
7. What sign did the angel give to Zacharias? (v. 18-25) What was its purpose?

## **1. Jesus's birth foretold to Mary--Luke 1:26-38**

1. When was the announcement of Jesus' birth made to Mary? (v. 26) What was Mary's marital status? (v. 27)
2. How did the angel greet her? (v. 28) What was her response? (v. 29)
3. What did the angel announce was about to happen? (v. 29-31)
4. What was his testimony about the child? (v. 32-33)
5. How did the angel say the conception would take place? (v. 34-35)
6. What fact about her kinsman did he tell her to help her faith? (v. 36) What did he affirm about God? (v. 37)
7. Did Mary believe the angel's word?

## **2. Mary visits Elizabeth--Luke 1:39-56**

1. What unusual things happened when Mary greeted Elizabeth? (v. 39-41)
2. Summarize Elizabeth's prophecy (v. 42-45) What effect would this have had on Mary to hear these words?
3. It appears that Mary also prophesied in response to Elizabeth. Summarize her prophecy (v. 46-55) How did Mary stay with Elizabeth? (v. 56)

## **3. The birth and boyhood of John--Luke 1:57-80**

1. Why did Zacharias name his son John? (v. 57-63) What happened upon doing so? (v. 64)
2. What effect did these signs have on the people of the area? (v. 65-66)
3. Summarize Zacharias' prophecy (v. 67-79)
4. How does Luke summarize John's life until his public appearance as prophet? (v. 80)