

GLENKIRK CHURCH



WEEKLY DEVOTIONS

# DEVO

DEC 29, 2025 - JAN 2, 2026



# MONDAY

**Read** Romans 5:8-10; 1 Corinthians 15:3-4; 2 Corinthians 5:21

---

## Mary, Did You Know?

By Mark Lowry

“Mary, did you know that your baby boy  
Will one day walk on water?  
Mary, did you know that your baby boy  
Will save our sons and daughters?

Did you know that your baby boy  
Has come to make you new?  
This child that you’ve delivered  
Will soon deliver you.

Mary, did you know that your baby boy  
Will give sight to a blind man?  
Mary, did you know that your baby boy  
Will calm a storm with His hand?

Did you know that your baby boy  
Has walked where angels trod?  
And when you kiss your little baby,  
You’ve kissed the face of God.

The blind will see. The deaf will hear.  
The dead will live again.  
The lame will leap. The dumb will speak  
The praises of the Lamb.

Mary, did you know that your baby boy  
Is Lord of all creation?  
Mary, did you know that your baby boy  
Will one day rule the nations?

Did you know that your baby boy  
Is Heaven's perfect Lamb?  
This sleeping child you're holding  
Is the Great I AM"

## QUESTIONS

Regarding Jesus' full identity and 1st Coming mission, how much do you think Mary understood? Do you ever lose sight of God's majestic plan of redemption in Christ?

## PRAYERS

Father God, thank you for the Gift of Jesus Christ, for loving us so much that You made the ultimate sacrifice that we might become Your adopted sons and daughters. Help us walk faithfully with You in Christ, both this week and throughout the new year.

# TUESDAY

Read **Luke 1:26-45; Luke 2:22-35**

---

*“Mary, did you know ... that your baby boy is Heaven’s perfect Lamb? This sleeping child you’re holding is the great I AM.” (Lowry)*

As Advent has concluded and Epiphany approaches, we are in “Christmastide” season. Today is day 6 of the “12 Days of Christmas.” This week we consider the song, “Mary, Did You Know,” vis-à-vis Jesus’ 1st Coming purpose “to seek and to save the lost” (Luke 19:10) and “be the Savior of the world” (1 John 4:14).

Consider Mary’s situation: likely 13-15 years old, pledged to the humble carpenter Joseph of Nazareth in pre-marriage betrothal. The angel Gabriel visits her, announcing that she’ll bear Israel’s Messiah despite her virginity. Mary has to process all of this and then advise Joseph. Legally, he could have had Mary executed. Rather, “Joseph, being a just man and unwilling to put [Mary] to shame, resolved to divorce her quietly” (Matthew 1:19). A heaven-sent vision subsequently assures Joseph “that which is conceived in her is from the Holy Spirit” (Matthew 1:20). Joseph faithfully wed Mary and raised Jesus as his own.

Mary’s response? “[She] treasured up all these things, pondering them in her heart” (Luke 2:19). She praised God via the glorious “Magnificat”—“My soul magnifies the Lord, ... my spirit rejoices in God my Savior” (Luke 1:46)—upon visiting her close relative,

Elizabeth, herself pregnant with John the Baptizer who “leaped for joy” (Luke 1:44) within Elizabeth’s womb upon pregnant Mary’s arrival.

Later, Mary and Joseph faithfully brought 8-day-old Jesus to the temple for circumcision, there meeting elderly Simeon. This devout, Spirit-filled man prophesied, recognizing the Lord and His redemptive mission: “... appointed for the fall and rising of many in Israel ... and a sword will pierce through your (Mary’s) own soul also” (Luke 2:34-35).

Simeon grasped what Jesus’ 1st Coming included, both its triumph and sacrifice. The foreign Magi, later paying homage to baby Jesus, understood—they worshiped Him, offering gifts symbolizing kingship (gold), divinity (frankincense, symbolizing prayer), and sacrifice (myrrh, an embalming resin). Mary had been told about the Christ, but how much did she truly know at this point? That’s this week’s theme.

## QUESTIONS

How was Joseph called to faith in ways perhaps rivaling Mary’s? How did the Magi’s gifts indicate their grasp of the Messiah’s mission?

## PRAYERS

Lord, help us to appreciate the humble, most challenging circumstances that Mary and Joseph faced along with Jesus Himself. Help us to be gracious amidst challenges, appreciative of Your abundant blessings.



# WEDNESDAY

Read **Luke 2:41-51; Mark 3:20-21, 31-32; John 7:2-5**

---

*“Did you know that your baby boy has walked where angels trod?  
When you kiss your little baby, you’ve kissed the face of God. ...  
Mary, did you know that your baby boy will one day rule the nations?”  
(Lowry)*

No one enjoys being doubted or misunderstood. It’s even worse when experiencing these from within your own family. Jesus, experiencing the depth of every pain and disadvantage ever felt by another, knew the grief of such skepticism. He endured every slight, struggle, and betrayal of the human experience to qualify as our perfect Substitute, Advocate, and Savior.

When Mary and Joseph unintentionally left 12-year-old Jesus behind following a Passover pilgrimage to Jerusalem, they returned to find Him in the temple. Mary anxiously scolded her young Son, *“Why have You treated us so? ... Your father and I have been searching for You”* (Luke 2:48). Jesus replied, *“Did you not know that I must be in My Father’s house?”* (v. 49). The pre-teen Messiah gently reminded Mary who His true Father is, Joseph being His stepfather.

In the second year of Jesus’ ministry, Mary and other family members sought Him out, fearing for His sanity and *“saying, ‘He is out of His mind’”* (Mark 3:21). Later, Jesus’ half-brothers mockingly challenged Him to join the Feast of Tabernacles, *“For no one works in secret if*

*he seeks to be known openly. ... show Yourself to the world"* (John 7:4). Their challenge echoed Satan's amidst Jesus' earlier wilderness temptations, the enemy offering Jesus *"all the kingdoms of the world"* (Luke 4:5) and enticing Him, *"If you are the Son of God, throw yourself down from [the temple]"* (v. 9). Scripture clearly states that Jesus' half-brothers disbelieved pre-resurrection: *"Not even His brothers believed in Him"* (John 7:5).

Was Mary's apparent confusion regarding her Son's mission merely overwrought, motherly concern over misplacing the young Messiah or was she concerned about the influential enemies Jesus was making as an adult? After all, she had been visited by Gabriel, experienced the Magi's worshipful pilgrimage, and heard Simeon's prophecy. Or did Mary struggle with the intent, content and gravity of Jesus' mission just like most other ancient Israelites?

## QUESTIONS

What events indicate Jesus' own family's doubts or misunderstanding regarding His identity and mission? How did the Lord's half-brothers' taunt echo how Satan tempted Him in the wilderness (Matthew 4:1-11)?

## PRAYERS

Gracious God, enable us to be gracious when others misunderstand or wrong us. Remind us that the Lord Himself faced all of these challenges and others much worse. Give us grateful, forgiving hearts.



# THURSDAY



Read **John 2:1-11; John 8:37-44**

*“Mary, did you know that your baby boy will one day walk on water? Mary did you know that your baby boy will save our sons and daughters? ... Mary, did you know that your baby boy is Lord of all creation?” (Lowry)*

As we usher in 2026, remember that Jesus performed His first public miracle at the wedding at Cana. However, the circumstances were strange and the Lord’s exchange with His mother stranger still. Why Mary’s concern over the wedding’s wine shortage? In ancient Israel, weddings were major, multi-day community events. Running out of wine wasn’t merely an inconvenience—it would be a public embarrassment shaming the host family. Perhaps the bride or groom were family members.

Mary likely was concerned about her family’s reputation. But her greater motivation may have been even more personal. Recall that she became pregnant pre-marriage in small-town Nazareth, thereby exposing Mary and family to ongoing gossip. Jesus’ opponents sneered later, “We are not illegitimate children [unlike You]” (John 8:41). Mary’s claim that Jesus was also God’s Son and Israel’s Messiah might have fueled the local rumor mill, others perhaps seeing it as her outrageous, desperate attempt to appear virtuous.



A public miracle by Jesus would vindicate Mary. Perhaps this is why, upon her surfacing the wine dilemma, He gently chided, “Woman, what does *this* have to do with Me?” (John 2:4). Jesus may have implied here, “My mission is not about the family’s status nor even your reputation.” The Savior didn’t come to do “magic tricks” or entertain. But, as a good Son keeping the 5th Commandment, His next move was both respectful and deeply meaningful.

Jesus turned the “water ... *that the Jews used in their washing ceremony ... [into] the best wine*” (John 2:6-10 NCV). The Lord used these circumstances to illustrate His mission: reconciling sinners with God, supplanting an empty religious ritual (ceremonial washing water) with abundant life (“*the best wine*”) in Christ. Mary knew that He could save the day by miraculously producing wine. But did she appreciate that His true agenda was humankind’s salvation—including her own—and fallen Creation’s restoration?

## QUESTIONS

Why do you think the Lord’s first public miracle was at a wedding? How was Jesus’ faithful response to Mary’s request an object lesson in what He was doing via His 1st Coming ministry?

## PRAYERS

Gracious God, enable us to be gracious when others misunderstand or wrong us. Remind us that the Lord Himself faced all of these challenges and others much worse. Help us faithfully endure and love more like Jesus.



# FRIDAY



Read **Psalm 22; Isaiah 52:13-15**

---

*“Mary, did you know ... that your baby boy has come to make you new? This child that you’ve delivered will soon deliver you.” (Lowry)*

At newborn Jesus’ temple dedication, Mary and Joseph met Simeon, who prophesied regarding the baby Messiah in their midst. His foretelling ended forebodingly: *“and a sword will pierce through your (Mary’s) own soul also”* (Luke 2:35). At Calvary’s cross 33+ years later, the gravity of Simeon’s prophecy must have gripped Mary with anguish exceeded only by her firstborn Son’s.

Popular views of Jesus’ execution—even as graphically depicted in the movie *The Passion of the Christ*—greatly understate the gore, agony and humiliation of crucifixion. The preceding Roman scourging—using whips embedded with bone, glass and/or metal fragments to tear flesh, exposing muscle and bone—was often fatal to victims. The nails used to secure the executed to the cross also severed nerves and shattered bones. Jesus was stripped bare to maximize His intended dishonor and degradation. Christ’s nakedness was at eye level to His mother, friends, followers, and enemies as He bore the full weight of humankind’s sin, shame, and judgment.

Yet Jesus’ mother, Mary—unlike all of His closest male disciples except John—witnessed Jesus’ execution. She bravely and lovingly endured all of this with Him despite the crucifixion’s horror. Her Son,

the Son of God once wrapped in swaddling clothes, now hung exposed and battered before those He came to save. Perhaps it was here that Mary finally knew, finally grasped the fullness of His mission.

As the Creator, only Jesus was able to hand-pick His mother and stepfather. Although Mary apparently struggled at times with her Son's mission—sometimes understanding, other times seemingly not—the Lord chose her wisely. She was nothing if not faithful, the opposite of the adulteress some detractors perhaps saw.

Many Christian denominations understate the challenges and faithfulness required of Mary to fulfill her pivotal, challenging role, perhaps overcompensating for her veneration by others. The Bible, however, declares Mary as “*blessed ... among women*” (Luke 1:42). As the new year ramps up, pray for steadfastness, courage, and devotion like Mary's.

## QUESTIONS

Which aspect of Jesus' execution do you find most horrific? How did Mary exhibit strength and love throughout His ordeal?

## PRAYERS

Almighty Creator, never let us forget the cost and pain of the sacrifice made by Jesus for our salvation. Help us to appreciate what He endured for us and the heartbreak that Mary experienced in loving Him. Grant us a measure of such faithfulness and strength.

## Sources



- The song “Mary, Did You Know?” was created by songwriters Mark Lowry (lyricist) and Buddy Greene (composer); copyright © 1991, Word Music and Rufus Music.

*These devotionals are written by a team of Glenkirk volunteers who represent a range of beliefs within the evangelical spectrum. As such, some of the expressed views may not necessarily represent those of pastoral leadership. If you find yourself challenged by a devo, explore why that might be and, should you have questions or concerns, please reach out to Pastor Caitlyn Schan at [CShan@GlenkirkChurch.org](mailto:CShan@GlenkirkChurch.org). If you are interested in joining those who pen Glenkirk devotionals, please contact Pastor Caitlyn.*

**Glenkirk Church** | 1700 Palopinto Ave, Glendora, CA 91741 | 626.914.4833  
**GlenkirkChurch.org** |  [@GlenkirkChurch](https://www.instagram.com/GlenkirkChurch) |  **Facebook: GlenkirkChurch**