

A photograph of two men in traditional, dark-colored robes and white head coverings walking away from the camera on a dirt path. They are positioned in front of a large, rustic stone wall made of irregular, light-colored stones. The man on the left is wearing a dark green robe, and the man on the right is wearing a dark purple robe. Both have shoulder bags. The background shows some greenery and a tree trunk on the left. The text is overlaid on the image in a white, serif font with a drop shadow.

Blessed is She Who Believed  
Luke 1:39-56

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Melbourne Community Church  
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A photograph of two men in traditional, dark-colored robes and head coverings walking away from the camera on a rocky, uneven path. The background consists of a rough stone wall and some sparse vegetation. The text 'Luke series:' is overlaid in a white, pixelated font with a black outline, positioned above a thin red horizontal line.

## Luke series:

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I. The Launch: 1:1-9:50

II. The Teachings: 9:51-19:44

III. The Passion: 19:45-24:53



# Luke's major themes:

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- ❖ The Gospel for all
- ❖ History
- ❖ Prayer
- ❖ Money
- ❖ Salvation
  - repentance
  - forgiveness
  - joy



## Luke 1-2

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- ❖ Gabriel and Zechariah (1:5-25)
- ❖ Gabriel and Mary (1:26-38)
- ❖ Mary's song (1:39-56)
- ❖ Birth of John the Baptist (1:57-66)
- ❖ Zechariah's song (1:67-80)
- ❖ Birth of Jesus (2:1-7)



## Luke 1:1-25

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- ❖ The Bible is rooted in history and geography.
- ❖ Israel's promised Messiah is the Savior of the world.
- ❖ The Lord reverses the fortunes of his people.
- ❖ God answers prayers, often in unexpected ways.





## Luke 1:26-38

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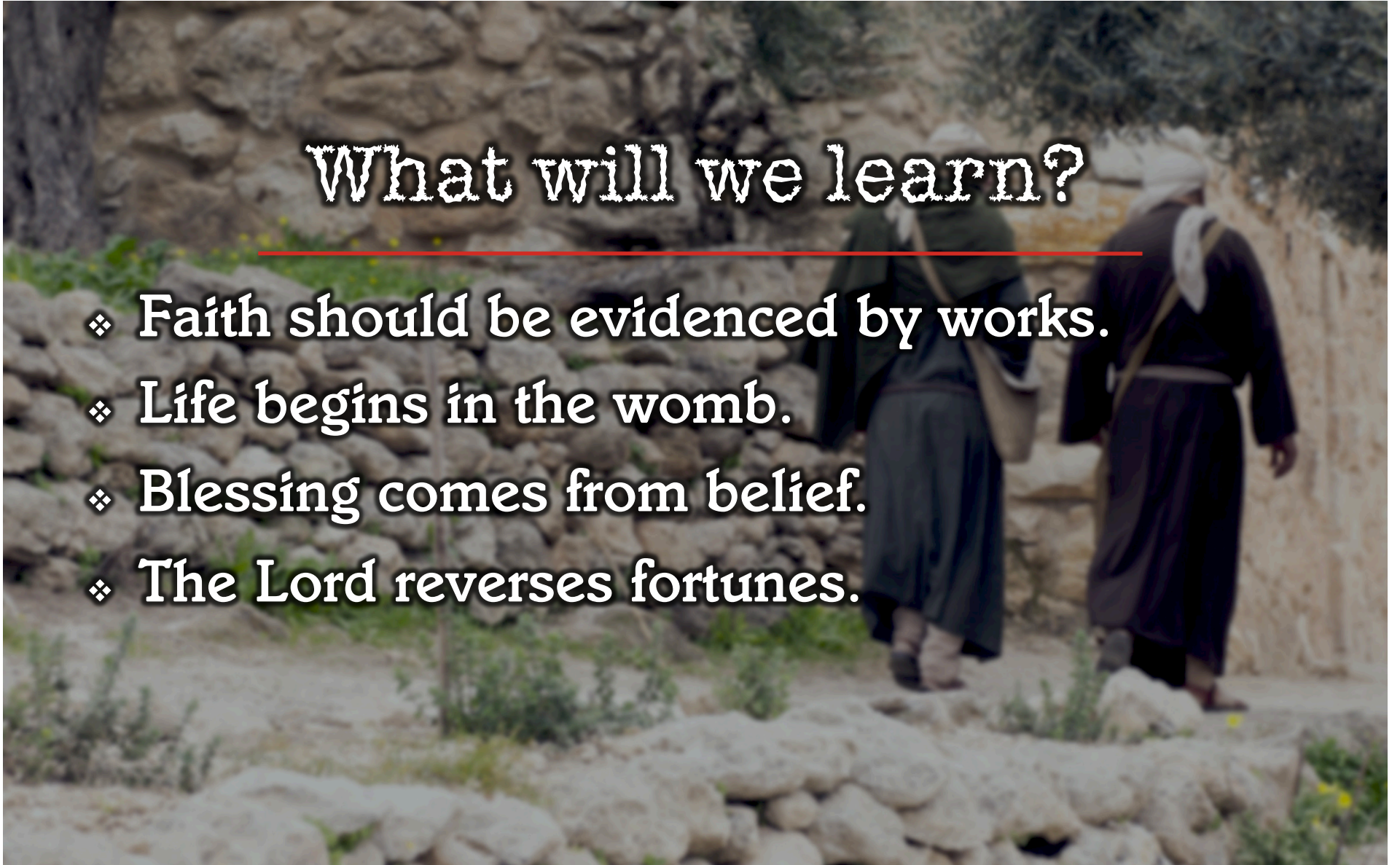
- ❖ The Lord works in strange, surprising ways.
- ❖ “No word from God will ever fail.”
- ❖ Mary shows us how to respond to God — with trust and obedience.



# What will we learn?

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- ❖ Faith should be evidenced by works.
- ❖ Life begins in the womb.
- ❖ Blessing comes from belief.
- ❖ The Lord reverses fortunes.





## Luke 1:39-40

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At that time Mary got ready and hurried to a town in the hill country of Judea, where she entered Zechariah's home and greeted Elizabeth.





# Nazareth Jerusalem

at the time of  
the birth of  
Jesus





# Nazareth Jerusalem

at the time of  
the birth of  
Jesus



SIDON

TYRE

CAPERNAUM

Galilee

NAZARETH

Samaria

SHILOH

Judea

JERUSALEM

DAMASCUS

Syria

SEA OF  
GALILEE

The  
Decapolis

Arabia

JORDAN  
RIVER

JERICO

SALT  
SEA

MELBOURNE  
COMMUNITY  
CHURCH  
REFLECTING CHRIST'S LOVE





## James 2:14-15

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What good is it, my brothers and sisters, if someone claims to have faith but has no deeds? Can such faith save them? Suppose a brother or a sister is without clothes and daily food.





## James 2:16-17

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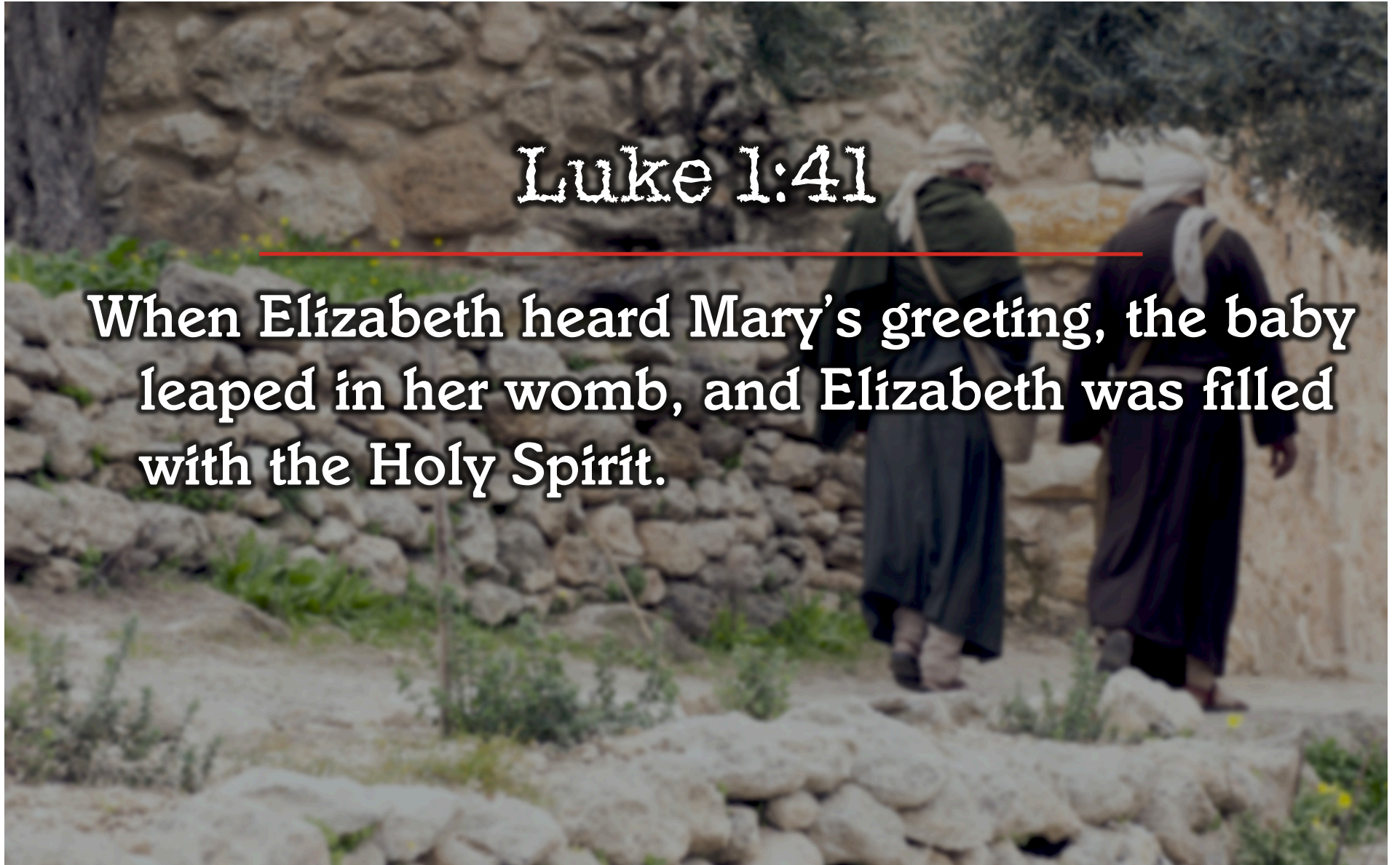
If one of you says to them, “Go in peace; keep warm and well fed,” but does nothing about their physical needs, what good is it? In the same way, faith by itself, if it is not accompanied by action, is dead.



## Luke 1:41

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When Elizabeth heard Mary's greeting, the baby leaped in her womb, and Elizabeth was filled with the Holy Spirit.





# Life Begins in the Womb

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- ❖ Luke 1:15
- ❖ Luke 1:41
- ❖ Psalm 22:9-10
- ❖ Psalm 139:13
- ❖ Isaiah 49:1
- ❖ Jeremiah 1:4-5



A photograph of two men in traditional, dark-colored robes and head coverings walking away from the camera on a rocky, uneven path. The background shows a stone wall and some greenery. The text is overlaid on the image.

## Isaiah 49:1

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Listen to me, you islands;  
hear this, you distant nations:  
Before I was born the LORD called me;  
from my mother's womb he has spoken my name.





## Jeremiah 1:4-5

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The word of the LORD came to me, saying,  
“Before I formed you in the womb I knew you,  
before you were born I set you apart;  
I appointed you as a prophet to the nations.”



## Luke 1:42-44

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In a loud voice she [Elizabeth] exclaimed:  
“Blessed are you among women, and blessed  
is the child you will bear! But why am I so  
favored, that the mother of my Lord should  
come to me? As soon as the sound of your  
greeting reached my ears, the baby in  
my womb leaped for joy.



A photograph of two men in traditional, dark-colored robes and head coverings walking away from the camera on a rocky, uneven path. The path is bordered by a low stone wall on the left and a taller, more substantial stone wall on the right. The background shows a rocky hillside with some sparse green vegetation. The overall scene is outdoors and appears to be in a rural or historical setting.

Luke 1:45

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**“Blessed is she who has believed that the Lord would fulfill his promises to her!”**



The background of the slide is a photograph of two men in traditional, earth-toned robes and head coverings walking away from the camera on a rocky, uneven path. The path is bordered by a rough stone wall on the left and a wooden fence on the right. The scene is set outdoors with some greenery and trees in the background.

## 'Hail Mary'

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Hail Mary, full of grace,  
the Lord is with you.

Blessed are you among women,  
and blessed is the fruit of your womb, Jesus.

Holy Mary, Mother of God,  
pray for us sinners,

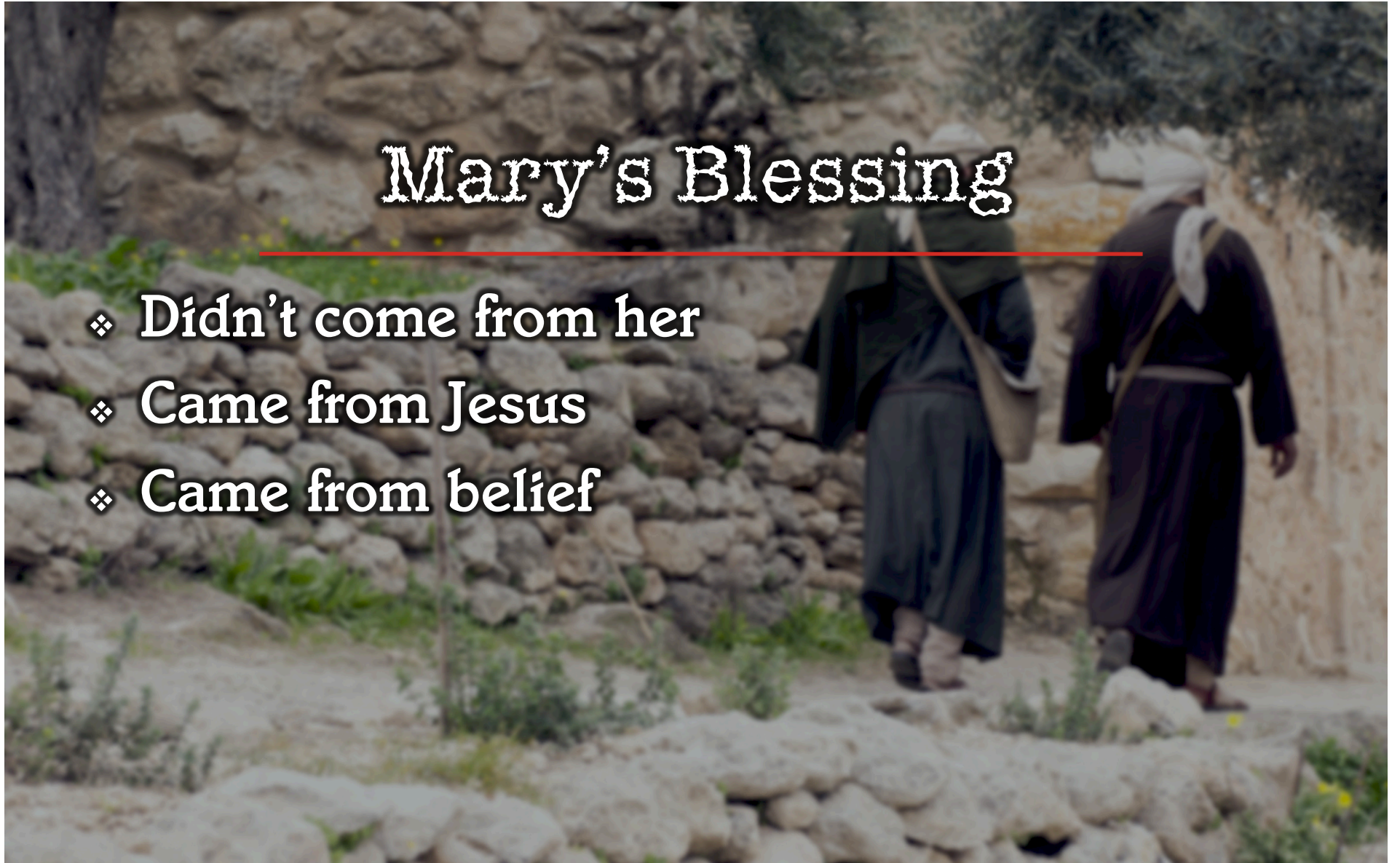
now and at the hour of our death. — Amen.



# Mary's Blessing

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- ❖ Didn't come from her
- ❖ Came from Jesus
- ❖ Came from belief





## Luke 1:46-48

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And Mary said:

“My soul glorifies the Lord  
and my spirit rejoices in God my Savior,  
for he has been mindful  
of the humble state of his servant.”



# God my Savior

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- ❖ Deuteronomy 32:15
- ❖ 2 Sam 22:3
- ❖ 2 Sam 22:47
- ❖ 1 Chronicles 16:35
- ❖ Ps 18:46
- ❖ Ps 24:5
- ❖ Ps 25:5
- ❖ Ps 27:9
- ❖ Ps 42:5,11
- ❖ Ps 43:5
- ❖ Ps 51:14
- ❖ Ps 65:5
- ❖ Ps 68:19
- ❖ Ps 79:9
- ❖ Ps 85:4
- ❖ Ps 89:26



A photograph of two men in traditional, dark-colored robes and head coverings walking away from the camera on a rocky, uneven path. The background shows a stone wall and some greenery. The text is overlaid on the image.

## Psalm 25:4-5

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Show me your ways, LORD,  
teach me your paths.

Guide me in your truth and teach me,  
for you are God my Savior,  
and my hope is in you all day long.



A photograph of two men in traditional, dark-colored robes and head coverings walking away from the camera on a rocky, uneven path. The path is bordered by a low stone wall on the left and a taller wall on the right. The background shows more of the rocky terrain and some sparse vegetation. The text is overlaid on the image.

## Psalm 65:5

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You answer us with awesome and righteous deeds,  
God our Savior,  
the hope of all the ends of the earth  
and of the farthest seas,



A background image showing two men in traditional, dark-colored robes and head coverings walking away from the camera on a rocky, uneven path. The path is bordered by a low stone wall on the left and a wooden fence on the right. The background consists of a steep, rocky hillside with some sparse green vegetation.

## Psalm 68:19-20

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Praise be to the Lord, to God our Savior,  
who daily bears our burdens.  
Our God is a God who saves;  
from the Sovereign LORD comes escape from death.



# God my Savior

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- ❖ Isaiah 17:10
- ❖ Hosea 13:4
- ❖ Isaiah 43:3
- ❖ Micah 7:7
- ❖ Isaiah 45:15,21
- ❖ Habakkuk 3:18



## Habakkuk 3:18-19

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yet I will rejoice in the LORD,  
I will be joyful in God my Savior.  
The Sovereign LORD is my strength;  
he makes my feet like the feet of a deer,  
he enables me to tread on the heights.



## Luke 1:48-49

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“From now on all generations will call me blessed,  
for the Mighty One has done great things for me —  
holy is his name.





## Luke 1:50-51

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“His mercy extends to those who fear him,  
from generation to generation.  
He has performed mighty deeds with his arm;  
he has scattered those who are proud  
in their inmost thoughts.



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## Luke 1:52-53

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“He has brought down rulers from their thrones  
but has lifted up the humble.  
He has filled the hungry with good things  
but has sent the rich away empty.”



# God's Strong Arm

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- ❖ Deuteronomy 4:34, 5:15, 7:19, 11:2
- ❖ Job 40:9
- ❖ Isaiah 52:10





# Contrasts

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- ❖ Scattered the proud
- ❖ Brought down rulers
- ❖ Sent rich away empty
- ❖ Performed mighty deeds
- ❖ Lifted up humble
- ❖ Filled the hungry





## Luke 1:54-55

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“He has helped his servant Israel,  
remembering to be merciful  
to Abraham and his descendants forever,  
just as he promised our ancestors.”





A photograph of two individuals in traditional, dark-colored robes and head coverings walking away from the camera on a rocky, uneven path. The path is bordered by a low stone wall on the left and a taller, more substantial stone wall on the right. The background shows a rocky hillside with some sparse green vegetation and a tree trunk on the far left. The overall scene is outdoors and appears to be in a rural or historical setting.

**Luke 1:56**

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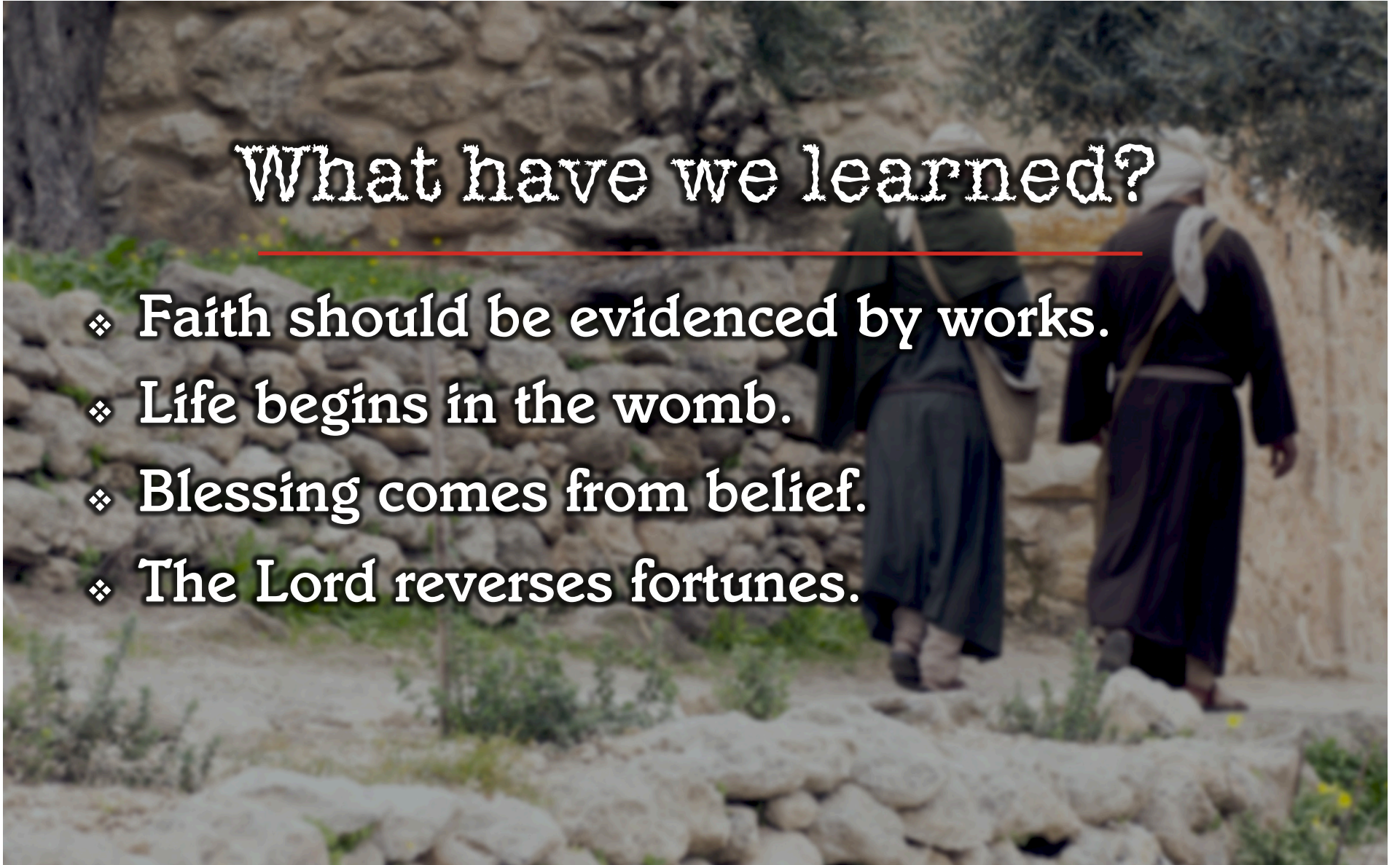
**Mary stayed with Elizabeth for about three months and then returned home.**



# What have we learned?

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- ❖ Faith should be evidenced by works.
- ❖ Life begins in the womb.
- ❖ Blessing comes from belief.
- ❖ The Lord reverses fortunes.









The background of the slide is a photograph of two individuals in traditional, dark-colored robes and head coverings walking away from the camera on a rugged, rocky path. The path is made of large, light-colored stones and is bordered by a low stone wall on the right. The background shows a rocky hillside with some sparse green vegetation.

# Are you being called?

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- ❖ To receive Christ
- ❖ To become a member of Melbourne Community Church
- ❖ To pray / to receive prayer
- ❖ To affirm or reaffirm a commitment
- ❖ To receive the Lord's Supper



# Life Begins in the Womb

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