### Day One - Read Luke 1:1-24 NLT

I love the foretelling of the coming of John the Baptist. Without him, the story of Jesus is not complete. Without John the Baptist, we lose the concept of preparing the way for the Lord.

## **Reflection Questions:**

1. God was intentional about preparing a way for the birth of His son. How can you pause to prepare your heart today for all God has for you?

2. If you know how important John the Baptist was to the story of Jesus, who is the person in your life that is important to your story and why?

#### Day Two - Read Luke 1:26-38 NLT

The angel Gabriel visits Mary to tell her of the call on her life to give birth to the Son of God.

#### **Reflection Questions:**

1. What would it look like in your life to say "yes" to God as easily as Mary did?

2. It is easy to question a Virgin birth and wonder how this could possibly happen. With God, all things are possible and He makes all things possible for you. Sit for a few minutes and reflect on that truth today.

## Day Three - Read Luke 1:39-56 NLT - Mary and Elizabeth

#### **Reflection Questions:**

1. I love the relationship between Mary and her cousin, Elizabeth. To me, it exemplifies a beautiful mentoring relationship. Who do you have in your life that is mentoring you or you have the blessing to mentor?

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2. Mary humbly accepted the call of God to be the Mother of Jesus. I'm not even sure she paused very long before saying "yes". Mary then praised God in the beautiful song, "The Magnificat." What in your life can you praise God for today?

# Day Four - Read <u>Luke 1:57-80 NLT</u> - Birth of John the Baptist and Zechariah's Prophecy

#### **Reflection:**

1. Take time to focus on not only how God intentionally wrote John the Baptist into the story but also how much your Father loves you to create a space for you in His story of the world. It is beyond my imagination to grasp how much the Father loves me.

## Day Five - Read Luke 2:1-16 NLT - The Birth of Jesus

#### **Reflection Questions:**

1. God is a God of details. The fact that Joseph and Mary ended up in Bethlehem due to the census was necessary for the prophecy to come true about the birth of Jesus. Where in your life have you seen details unfold that could have only come from God?

2. I love the worship that ensued with the angels and shepherds in the middle of a field. The angels prepared the way for the shepherds to hear of the birth and then to make their way to Bethlehem to celebrate. The idea of worship is one that occurs today as well as thousands of years ago. As the second week of Advent comes to an end, spend time in worship for your good, good Father.

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