



# Everyday FAITH Family Page

## New Testament 1

### Law/Gospel

Like Mary, I deserve nothing from God because of my sinfulness. **God gives me unmerited grace and favor because of His Son.**

### Bible Words

In this the love of God was made manifest among us, that God sent His only Son into the world, so that we might live through Him.  
1 John 4:9

### Fun Facts

*Jesus* is the English version of the Hebrew word *yehoshu'ah*, which means "Yahweh is salvation." The English spelling derives from a shortened Greek form. In the Greek New Testament, *Joshua* and *Jesus* are the same names.

## The Birth of Jesus Foretold

Luke 1:26–38

A young girl named Mary received a surprise when the angel Gabriel suddenly appeared and said, "Greetings, O favored one, the Lord is with you!" (Luke 1:28). Gabriel said Mary would become pregnant with God's Son when the Holy Spirit came upon her. She should call Him Jesus.

Mary accepted the angel's message through faith. She said, "I am the servant of the Lord; let it be to me according to your word" (Luke 1:38).

We recognize the great gift of faith God gave Mary. We honor her and each year commemorate the annunciation on March 25 with a feast day, nine months before Jesus' birth.

Virgin Mary's firstborn Son was called Immanuel, which means "God with us," fulfilling Isaiah's prophecy about the Messiah (Isaiah 7:14).

Through Immanuel's suffering and death on the cross, we also receive God's favor and eternal blessing. Through faith, we have confidence that God is with us always and present through His Word and Sacraments.

### Nazareth

The small town of Nazareth lies sixteen miles southwest of the Sea of Galilee. Here, the angel Gabriel told Mary she would become the mother of Jesus, God's Son. Later, Mary and Joseph raised their family there.

But Nazareth had a bad reputation, especially among religious leaders in Jerusalem. Its reputation may have been tarnished by a trade route in the nearby valley that brought many Gentiles into town.

New archaeological evidence suggests Rome also built a fort for several hundred soldiers near Nazareth. The presence of Roman soldiers, despised by the citizens, probably didn't help the town's reputation.

### Prayer

*Lord, remind us that You love us and sent Your Son as our Savior, no matter where we come from or where we live. In His name we pray. Amen.*