

Luke 1:46-55  
Mary's Song**Warm Up**

What is your favourite song? What makes it a favourite? The tune or lyrics? Is there song or style of music that you really dislike? Why? What makes music so important as a means of expression?

**Background and context**

Mary has just heard the news that God is about to do great things. Not only that, but she is going to be part of it. In fact she is going to be central in the arrival of God on earth! Imagine a young teenage girl being told by an angel that she is about to be the mother of God in human form. What would your reaction be? Mary's song of praise leaves us in no doubt about her feelings. Here is a young believer who praises God because she has the opportunity to serve and be part of God's big plans. She sees the big picture and wants to be part of it! Is that how we always respond when God asks us to get involved?

**Thinking it through: Main discussion/activity**

**READ Luke 1:46-55.** What are the surprising things in the passage? What is new? What don't you really understand?

1. **Read v 46-49.** It must have been a shock for Mary to learn what God was about to do. How does Mary react? What does she focus on?
2. These verses are often called **The Magnificat**, which in Latin means, '**my soul magnifies the Lord.**' Where in the text can we see this? Find examples of the deep faith Mary had.
3. Mary must have been nervous on receiving the news of her pregnancy, even if it was a blessing from the Lord. How do **verses 51-55** show her trust in God, that He will not abandon her?
4. **Read v 50-55 again!** Not only is Mary quoting the Old Testament, but this is prophetic about her revolutionary son. How will Jesus change the world order?
5. How do you think Mary's recognition of God's favour and greatness can inspire us in our own faith journeys?
6. Why is it important for us to remember God's faithfulness throughout history?
7. In what ways should we strive to follow God's example of lifting up the lowly and caring for the marginalized?

**Discipleship and Application**

8. In what ways can we cultivate a spirit of worship and gratitude like Mary?
9. How can we practically demonstrate God's justice and compassion in our communities?
10. Mary made room for Jesus in her life, both spiritually and physically. How can you do the same?



**Try to leave 15-20 mins to talk about prayer needs of the group and to pray.**

There are many creative ways of praying together: writing prayers, using candles as a focus, reading prayers or praying for each other in pairs.