

CBC's Women's Ministry Bible Study  
**TWELVE EXTRAORDINARY WOMEN** by John MacArthur  
CHAPTER 6 - *Mary: Blessed Among Women (Luke 1:27-28)*

After reading chapter six, please respond to each item in preparation for group discussion:

1. How does Mary stand out above all other women?
2. List extra-biblical religious traditions and superstitious heresy that you've been made aware of that has corrupted the Scriptural portrayal of Mary.
3. What does Scripture say that refutes the claim that Mary was a perpetual virgin?
4. What women have we already studied in this book that were Mary's ancestors?
5. What woman did we study that was not Mary's ancestor but reflects Mary's faith?
6. Like many people God chose to use for his glory, Mary was a common person. Describe Mary's place of birth, her background and status before she conceived.
7. What did the angel announce to her and how did he reassure her?
8. Mary expressed confusion about how she could conceive and probably anticipated the difficulties her calling would bring. Regardless, she demonstrated mature faith by joyfully surrendering to God's will. What is Mary's one sentence response that Luke records in chapter 1? What does she teach us?

9. What was Joseph's initial response to the news that Mary had conceived? What impact did the angel's appearance in a dream have on him, demonstrating his character?

10. What was Elizabeth's immediate response to the sound of Mary's voice? What prophecy did she speak?

11. Mary's prophetic words are known as the Magnificat. A chart is given that lists the parallels between Luke's record of her words and Old Testament records of the law, psalms and the prophets. Does she claim any goodness in herself, a sinless nature, or the ability to save mankind alongside the Lord?

Whom does Mary glorify? What does she praise the Lord for?

12. Mary had to surrender her maternal authority over Jesus and submit to his authority over her as her Lord and Savior. Were his rebukes harsh? Were they necessary, and if so, why?

13. How did Simeon's prophecy that Mary's heart would be pierced come to pass? How did she demonstrate dignity, courage, and grace at the cross?

14. Mary was praying with the disciples at Pentecost. Is there any indication in the Scriptures that the early church venerated Mary? How does this solidify our understanding of her humble nature?

15. To who does Mary's life and testimony consistently point? How does this exhort you in your testimony?

***The virgin's name was Mary. And having come in, the angel said to her, "Rejoice, highly favored one, the Lord is with you; blessed are you among women!"*** Luke 1:27-28 NKJV