

“A WALK WITH MARY & ELIZABETH”
Advent Series: A Walk to Bethlehem
Questions from *The Path Sermon*

When you were a teenager, who was the adult you could talk to when you were troubled?

Read Luke 1:39. Why didn't Mary talk to her parents &/or Joseph before she left? How do you hear the story differently knowing of the time lag between the Annunciation to Mary and Mary's visit to Elizabeth? Why was the first thing that Mary wanted to do was to go and visit Elizabeth?

Read Luke 1:40-45. What happened when Mary greeted Elizabeth? How did Elizabeth respond? What significance did this greeting have for Mary? Why did Elizabeth talk about Mary and not her own experience first? How have you felt when you shared your problems with someone, and they focused on you, versus someone who tries to “one-up” your problem? Why is Mary blessed (v.45)?

Read each part of Mary's Song. How would you express each of these types of prayer/praise in your own words?

- i. Personal adoration and thanks (vv. 46-48);
- ii. Celebration of God's attributes (vv. 49-50);
- iii. Acclaim for correcting injustice (vv. 51-53);
- iv. Praise for the mercy shown Israel (vv. 54-55).

Read Luke 1:56. Do you think Mary left before Elizabeth delivered John? Why do you think she did or did not leave early? What do you think Elizabeth's advice was?

If you were leading a training on being a spiritual mentor or spiritual friend, what characteristics of a good mentor would you emphasize?