

Sample Mentoring Conversation

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Elizabeth & Mary

When the angel Gabriel spoke with Mary about bearing God's Son, he also gave her another interesting piece of news. Her much older and previously infertile relative, Elizabeth, would likewise bear a son who would serve God (Luke 1:35-56).

Young Mary immediately set out on a sixty-five mile journey to Elizabeth's home, where she spent the next three months. Ever wonder why Mary urgently made this trip? Perhaps she needed the counsel of a godly woman who was dealing with the same challenge—an unexpected, life-altering pregnancy.

Let's imagine how one mentoring conversation might have looked.

Elizabeth: Mary, fill me in on exactly what happened the day the angel appeared to you.

Mary: It was just so strange! I was going about my morning chores when the room suddenly got bright. It took my eyes a few minutes to adjust, but then I saw the outline of something. It scared me to death! Then a being began to talk to me . . . (Mary relates more details).

Elizabeth: I can tell you're excited. God's chosen you for a holy task that will bring him much glory. You have the heart of a servant and I know this pleases God. But, I also sense you're a little worried. What concerns you about this?

Mary: You're right. I'm really worried about what Joseph will say. How do I explain this to him? I'm afraid he won't believe me.

Elizabeth: Yes, that's a tough one. I must admit I had a hard time understanding Zechariah when he got the news about my pregnancy. In fact, it took me about five months to process the whole thing. Some days I was overwhelmed with joy, and other days I would think, "How will I do this? I'm much too old to bear a child!"

It's okay if you don't have all the answers right now. I can assure you that God is faithful and he will see you through this. And, know that whatever happens, this will be a huge blessing in your life.

We have some chores to do right now, but let's talk about this again tomorrow. Maybe we can think through how Joseph might respond, and what you could do to handle the situation.

Mary: Thanks friend. Your support means everything to me right now.