

## Sermon-Based Bible Study Group



**December 1, 2024**

**“Tune Into God’s Presence”** - #1 in the Advent series Do Not Fear

**Text:** Luke 1:26-38 (NIV)

1. What stood out to you about the message?
2. Our fear of dangerous or dreaded situations can be physical, emotional, or psychological. Think about a time when you’ve experienced fear.
  - What caused you to be afraid?
  - Where did you most feel the fear - in your body? Your mind?
  - What helped you move through the fear?
3. **Read Luke 1:26-30.**
  - Why do you think Mary was “greatly troubled” by Gabriel’s encouraging greeting?
  - When fearful, why are words of encouragement sometimes of little initial comfort?
4. **Read Luke 1:31-37.**
  - What does Mary’s curiosity - “How can this be?” - teach us about “tuning in” to God’s presence in a fearful situation?
  - How was Gabriel’s sharing the news of Elizabeth’s pregnancy an example of God “tuning in” to Mary in her moment of fear?
5. **Read Luke 1:38.**

During Mary’s encounter with Gabriel, she demonstrates what tuning into God’s presence can look like - curiosity, listening, and yielding to the mystery of God.

  - Which of these responses do you find most encouraging? Challenging?
  - Which do you feel can lessen the effects of fear for you the most?
7. How can we pray for you?