

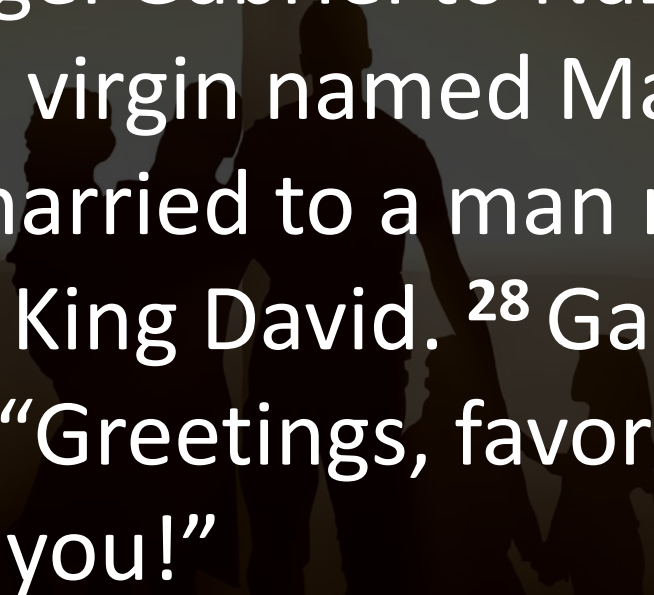
Experience the Cross

*How their stories illuminate our story
and shape our perspective*



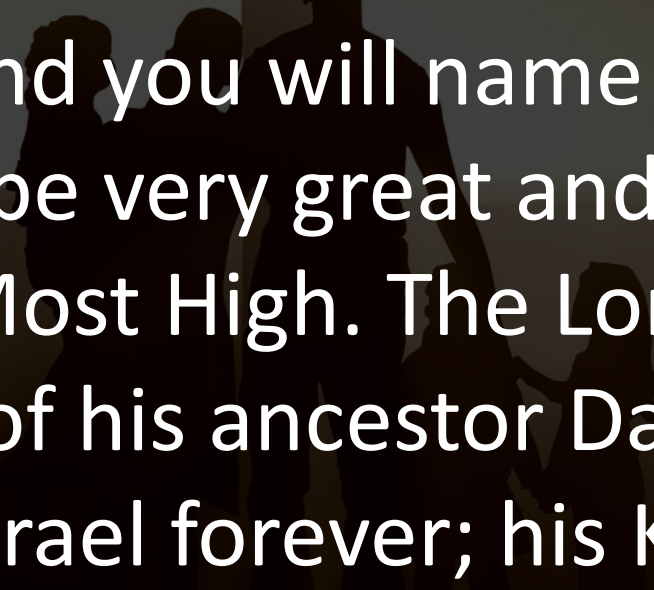
LUKE 1:26-28

²⁶ In the sixth month of Elizabeth's pregnancy, God sent the angel Gabriel to Nazareth, a village in Galilee, ²⁷ to a virgin named Mary. She was engaged to be married to a man named Joseph, a descendant of King David. ²⁸ Gabriel appeared to her and said, "Greetings, favored woman! The Lord is with you!"

The background of the slide features a dark, atmospheric photograph of a family walking away from the viewer. The figures are in silhouette against a lighter, hazy background that suggests a landscape with hills or a field. The family consists of a man, a woman, and several children, all walking together in a line.

LUKE 1:29-33

²⁹ Confused and disturbed, Mary tried to think what the angel could mean. ³⁰ “Don’t be afraid, Mary,” the angel told her, “for you have found favor with God! ³¹ You will conceive and give birth to a son, and you will name him Jesus. ³² He will be very great and will be called the Son of the Most High. The Lord God will give him the throne of his ancestor David. ³³ And he will reign over Israel forever; his Kingdom will never end!”

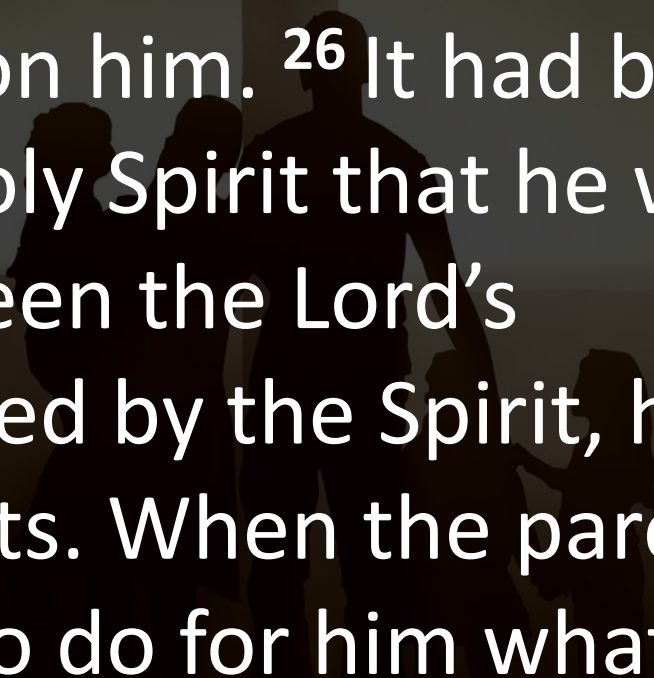
A faint, dark silhouette of a family of five people walking together from left to right across the middle of the page. The figures are a man, a woman, and three children, all appearing to be in motion. The background behind them is a bright, hazy light, possibly representing a sunrise or sunset, which creates a strong contrast with the dark figures.

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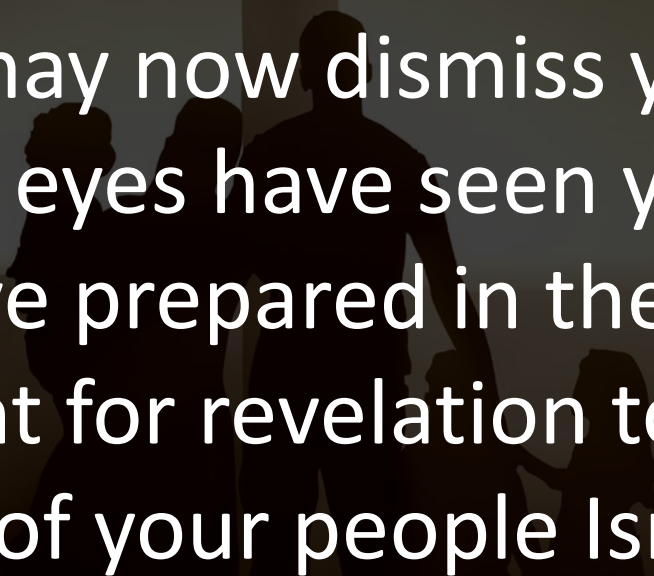
Luke 2:25-27

²⁵ Now there was a man in Jerusalem called Simeon, who was righteous and devout. He was waiting for the consolation of Israel, and the Holy Spirit was on him. ²⁶ It had been revealed to him by the Holy Spirit that he would not die before he had seen the Lord's Messiah. ²⁷ Moved by the Spirit, he went into the temple courts. When the parents brought in the child Jesus to do for him what the custom of the Law required,

A faint, dark silhouette of a family walking together in a landscape. The figures are a man, a woman, and two children, walking away from the viewer towards the right. The background shows rolling hills under a light sky.

Luke 2:28-33

²⁸ Simeon took him in his arms and praised God, saying: ²⁹ “Sovereign Lord, as you have promised, you may now dismiss your servant in peace. ³⁰ For my eyes have seen your salvation, ³¹ which you have prepared in the sight of all nations: ³² a light for revelation to the Gentiles, and the glory of your people Israel.”

The background of the slide features a dark, atmospheric scene with the silhouettes of a family walking away from the viewer. A man in the center is holding the hand of a child, and a woman is walking to the left. The background shows a horizon line under a dark sky, suggesting a sunset or sunrise.

Luke 2:25-28

³³ The child's father and mother marveled at what was said about him.³⁴ Then Simeon blessed them and said to Mary, his mother: "This child is destined to cause the falling and rising of many in Israel, and to be a sign that will be spoken against,³⁵ so that the thoughts of many hearts will be revealed. And a sword will pierce your own soul too."

Luke 2:25-28

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Luke 24:1-4

On the first day of the week, very early in the morning, the women took the spices they had prepared and went to the tomb. 2 They found the stone rolled away from the tomb, 3 but when they entered, they did not find the body of the Lord Jesus. 4 While they were wondering about this, suddenly two men in clothes that gleamed like lightning stood beside them.

Luke 24:5-8

5 In their fright the women bowed down with their faces to the ground, but the men said to them, “Why do you look for the living among the dead? 6 He is not here; he has risen! Remember how he told you, while he was still with you in Galilee: 7 ‘The Son of Man must be delivered over to the hands of sinners, be crucified and on the third day be raised again.’ ” 8 Then they remembered his words.

Luke 24:5-8

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LUKE 1:34-37

³⁴ “How will this be,” Mary asked the angel, “since I am a virgin?”

³⁵ The angel answered, “The Holy Spirit will come on you, and the power of the Most High will overshadow you. So the holy one to be born will be called the Son of God. ³⁶ Even Elizabeth your relative is going to have a child in her old age, and she who was said to be unable to conceive is in her sixth month. ³⁷ For no word from God will ever fail.”

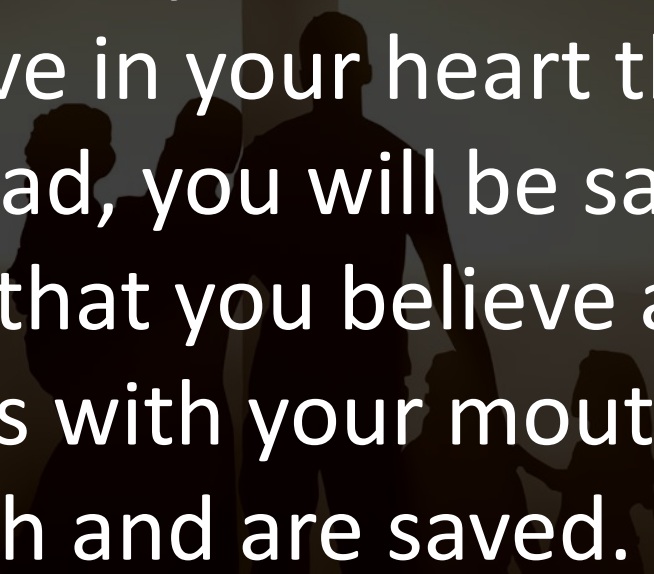
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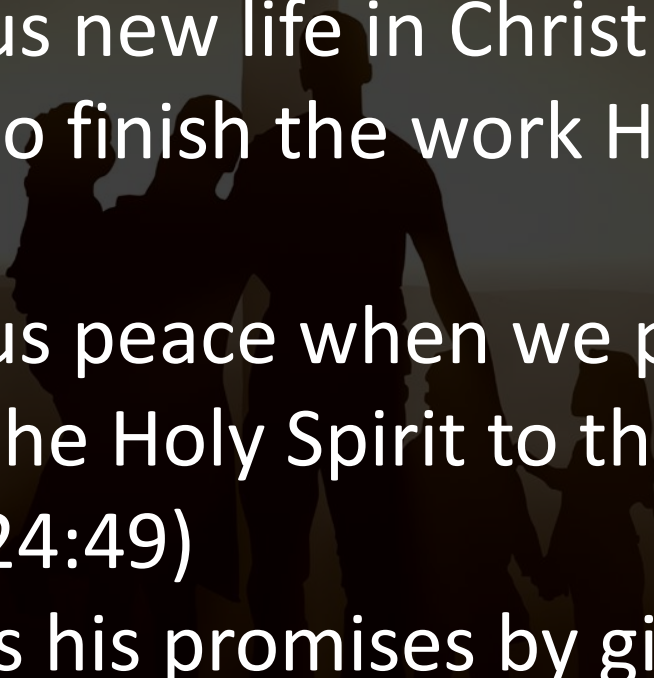
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Romans 10:9-10

⁹ If you declare with your mouth, “Jesus is Lord,” and believe in your heart that God raised him from the dead, you will be saved. ¹⁰ For it is with your heart that you believe and are justified, and it is with your mouth that you profess your faith and are saved.

The background of the slide features a dark, moody landscape with rolling hills. In the center, there is a silhouette of a family walking away from the viewer. The family consists of a man in the front, a woman carrying a child on her back, and another child walking to the right. The scene is backlit, creating a bright glow around the figures and suggesting a sunrise or sunset.

Promises of God

- All things work together for good for those that love him and are called to His purpose (Rom. 8:28)
 - He promises us rest (Matt. 11:28)
 - He promises us new life in Christ (2 Cor. 5:17)
 - He promises to finish the work He begun in us (Phil. 1:6)
 - He promises us peace when we pray (Phil. 4:6-7)
 - He promises the Holy Spirit to those who believe in Him (Luke 24:49)
 - He guarantees his promises by giving us the holy spirit (2 Cor. 1:21-22)
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- A silhouette of a family walking together against a sunset background. The family consists of a man, a woman, and a child, all walking towards the right. The man is in the center, holding the hand of the woman on his left and the child on his right. The woman is wearing a backpack. The child is holding the man's hand. The background shows a sunset with a bright sun low on the horizon, creating a warm glow. The silhouettes are dark against the lighter background.

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- The background of the slide features a dark, atmospheric scene. In the center, a large, simple silhouette of a cross stands against a lighter, hazy sky. Below the cross, the silhouettes of a family—a man, a woman, and two children—are visible. They appear to be standing together, possibly in a field or a park, with rolling hills in the distance. The overall mood is contemplative and spiritual.
- God has a plan for your life
 - God's Word can be trusted