

# FOLLOWING JESUS

Follow Jesus everywhere you go this summer!

## JUNE 1-5

### □ June 1

### Luke 1:1-4

Last summer, Jennifer and I, along with a few hundred of our closest friends, embarked on an Alaskan cruise. On the first night aboard, the captain and his crew met with us to explain the safety procedures and outline what was ahead of us. We listened with great excitement as he described some of the sights we would see and the various ports of call we would visit. We could hardly wait to begin our journey. He had made us anxious to get started.

After I finished reading the first four verses, I wondered if the recipient, Theophilus, was as excited to read about Luke's "carefully investigated orderly account" as my shipmates were about our trip. Luke, the author, wanted Theophilus to "know the certainty of the things" he had previously learned. And what was the subject of Luke's investigation? The Life of Jesus. As we begin our summer journey, welcome aboard!

*Prayer: Jesus, be our guide and captain as we read about your life and may we grow in our knowledge of You, Your Father, and Your Holy Spirit. Amen.*

**Link to Reading:** <http://www.biblegateway.com/passage/?search=Luke%201:1-4&version=ESV>

### □ June 2

### Luke 1:5-25

When Zechariah was confronted by the angel, Gabriel, with the good news that his prayers had been answered he doubted what he was told and wanted more proof. We probably would like to really think that we would have believed, but how often do we ask for something in prayer not really expecting to receive it?

Thankfully, God doesn't take away His grace, gifts or promises when we have a weak faith. I can't help but wonder what life might be like if we went to God in prayer without doubt and complete trust. What great things might happen in our lives then?

**Link to Reading:** <http://www.biblegateway.com/passage/?search=Luke%201:5-25&version=ESV>

### □ June 3

### Luke 1:26-38

Mary's first response, when confronted by God through an angel, was one of doubt as to how something that seemed impossible could happen. But after she was given an example of God's ability to make all things possible, she willingly submitted her life to God's will and asked Him to use her as His servant. Is there something God is asking us to do that seems impossible or gives us concern? Let's focus on a time that God showed His ability to make the impossible become a reality and take a step forward as His servants. Let's trust Him completely!

**Link to Reading:** <http://www.biblegateway.com/passage/?search=Luke%201:26-38&version=ESV>

### □ June 4

### Luke 1:39-56

The passage doesn't tell us much about Mary's greeting to Elizabeth. But it does tell us that Elizabeth was immediately "filled with the Holy Spirit." I take for granted the gift of the Holy Spirit to all who believe and accept Jesus Christ as their Lord and Savior. Before Christ became human, died for our sins and returned to His Father in heaven, the Holy Spirit only came to certain people as deemed by God. As soon as Elizabeth had that gift, the Truth was revealed to her. We might wonder how Mary could accept what was happening to her as a gift, as something to sing about. But God gave her what she needed - The Holy Spirit to reveal His Truth. Sing for joy today that the Holy Spirit is with you always. Rely on His ability to reveal God's Truth to all who believe.

**Link to Reading:** <http://www.biblegateway.com/passage/?search=Luke%201:39-56&version=ESV>

### □ June 5

### Luke 1:57-80

This is the story of the birth of John the Baptist, and the "controversy" of naming the baby John, as there was no one in the family with that name. Both John's mother and his father, Zechariah, agreed that this was the right thing to do as it was God's wish. Upon naming his son, Zachariah was filled with the Holy Spirit, and shared what his son would do as he was called by God. These acts were heard loud and wide across the countryside and led the way to John's amazing life! May the Spirit move within you as it did within John and his parents.

**Link to Reading:** <http://www.biblegateway.com/passage/?search=Luke%201:39-56&version=ESV>

