

## The Meaning Behind the Magic | Week #03

More than a Divine Conception | December 16<sup>th</sup> and 19<sup>th</sup>

**Anchor Verse:** Everyone who listened was astonished at what the shepherds told them. But Mary took all this in and reflected on it. Luke 2:18-19

### What's the Issue Anyway?

In the ancient world \_\_\_\_\_ was a rather mysterious affair.

### The Magic in Luke's Conception Stories (Luke 1:1-38)

Luke \_\_\_\_\_ with the Divine Intervention in the conception of John the Baptist. (Luke 1:1-26)

Luke balances the \_\_\_\_\_ scales.

The barren woman, promised child and divine intervention was a central \_\_\_\_\_ line in the salvation history of Israel.

Luke tells the story of the conception of Jesus \_\_\_\_\_ the story of John's conception. (1:26-38)

Mary is not simply barren or without child, she is a \_\_\_\_\_.  
\_\_\_\_\_ brought an opportunity to Mary.

Luke \_\_\_\_\_ the miraculous conceptions with the work of God.

### The Meaning behind the Magic of Divine Intervention and a Virgin Conception

This issue was not and is not the \_\_\_\_\_ of the mother, but the \_\_\_\_\_ of the child.

The early Christian claims of a virgin conception, pregnancy and birth is the \_\_\_\_\_ of Jesus as King of kings and Lord of lords.

### Your Everyday Normal Life

Once you know the destiny of this child, are you willing to commit your \_\_\_\_\_ to it?

Will you \_\_\_\_\_ the new work of God in you and through you?

### How does this Make us and the World a Better Place?

When we give our lives to the meaning behind the magic of the virgin birth, we find and walk the true path to \_\_\_\_\_ on \_\_\_\_\_.

### What is God inviting you into today?

1. Invite a friend to a Christmas Eve Services.
2. Believe and commit to what the virgin birth means: Jesus is King of kings and Lord of lords.
3. Kick off the Adventure is Worth It! 2022 Ministry Emphasis by giving generously in the Christmas Eve offering and turning in my Adventure is Worth It! pledge card.

### Thought provoking questions:

1. Think of someone who has made extraordinary contributions to humanity in your lifetime. What made them so special? Why were they used by God to bring such good into the world instead of someone else?
2. What is the difference between replacing or ending the old covenant vs. exalting the new covenant?
3. Luke and Matthew are writing the story with an agenda of exalting Jesus over Rome (Caesar). If you were writing the story of Jesus today, what "Rome" or "Caesar" would you be trying to exalt Jesus over?
4. Think about Mary's response to Gabriel. When have you responded to the opportunity of God with such personal abandonment? When have you struggled to respond like Mary?
5. In your own words, what was the destiny of the baby Jesus? What does it mean to commit your life to that destiny?