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## Read Big. Read Well. Read Together.

A revolutionary way to gather together and read the Bible, encouraging regular, meaningful engagement with God's Word.

### Part 1 – Sunday 19<sup>th</sup> April 2020





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#### JOIN THE CONVERSATION.

Think of your weekly discussion group as a book club, rather than a Bible study. All you have to do is come prepared to share your responses to five simple questions:

- 😥 What's something you noticed for the first time?
- What questions did you have?
- (e) Was there anything that bothered you?
- 🚫 What did you learn about loving God?
- 🛞 What did you learn about loving others?

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#### NEW TESTAMENT **8-WEEK READING PLAN**

You'll read a number of pages each day, five days a week (Monday-Friday). Each day's reading continues to the end of the last page or largest section break indicated on that page. Don't worry if you fall behind; you can always use weekends to catch up.

#### WEEK 5 Matthew

WEEK 1

Luke - Acts

WEEK 2

Luke - Acts. 1-2 Thessalonians

WEEK 3

WEEK 4

Day 21 p. 249-263 Day 1 p. 1-11 Day 22 p. 263-275 Day 2 p. 12-25 Day 23 p. 275-283 Day 3 p. 25-34 Day 4 p. 34-44 Day 24 p. 283-296 Day 25 p. 296-303 Day 5 p. 44-56

#### WEEK 6

Hebrews, James, Mark Day 26 p. 305-311 Day 6 p. 57-66 Day 27 p. 311-324 Day 7 p. 66-78 Day 28 p. 325-332 Day 8 p. 78–90 Day 29 p. 333-351 Day 9 p. 90–106 Day 30 p. 351-367 Day 10 p. 107-119

#### WEEK 7

1-2 Corinthians. 1-2 Peter, Jude, John **Galatians**, Romans Day 31 p. 369-376 Day 11 p. 121-131 Day 32 p. 377-386 Day 12 p. 131-142 Day 33 p. 387-403 Day 13 p. 143-157 Day 34 p. 403-416 Day 14 p. 159-169 Day 35 p. 416-430 Day 15 p. 171-186

#### WEEK 8

Romans, Colossians, 1-3 John, Revelation Ephesians, Philemon, Day 36 p. 431-445 Philippians, 1 Timothy Day 37 p. 447-455 Titus, 2 Timothy Day 38 p. 455-469 Day 16 p. 186-196 Day 39 p. 469-477 Day 17 p. 197-203 Day 40 catch-up day Day 18 p. 205-218 Day 19 p. 219-234 Day 20 p. 235-247

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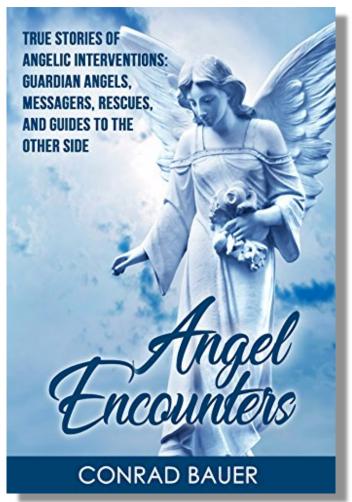








# Angel stories Google search 274,000,000 results in less than 1 second







### The angel Gabriel has the honour to announce the wonder of the birth of Jesus (Luke 1:26, 30, 35–37).

 Mary, a virgin, is chosen (favoured) by God (Luke 1:28).
Mary will give birth to King Jesus, son of the Most High (Luke 1:31–33).

3. Mary's conception of Jesus is a miracle of the Holy Spirit (Luke 1:35).







**1. God understands your life** - both its celebrations and desperations.

- **2. Obedience has a history** Mary is saying a BIG yes to God
- **3. The birth of Jesus, (the incarnation) is God's shout of love (**John 3:16)





# God uses Augustus' decree to move Mary from Nazareth to Bethlehem (Luke 2:1, 3–4).

1. Fulfilment of ancient prophecy: Micah prophesies that the Messiah will be born in Bethlehem (Micah 5:2).

2. God uses world leaders to accomplish his purposes (Luke 2:1), e.g. example, Cyrus (Persian king (Isaiah 45:1,13) and Caesar Augustus.

## Mary and Joseph arrive in crowded Bethlehem and Jesus is born (Luke 2:5–7).

Jesus is born to poor parents in humble circumstances (Luke 2:7).
Jesus, God's Son, was born as the humble king.



## WHAT DIFFERENCE DOES THIS MAKE?

- God's purposes overcome all obstacles in His path. (We call God's unstoppable purposes his sovereignty)
- Every human being exists as a living expression of God's image, infinitely valuable to God.
- You can trust God with the details of your life.
- What or who do you need to give to God?





## **CONCLUSION:**

- **Something I want you to know:** God understands your life, both its celebrations and desperations. He is working out His eternal plan.
- Something I want you to feel: God can be trusted with the details of your life because you are loved as much as Jesus. (John 17:26)
- **Something I want you to do:** be like Mary, say YES to God. Start today (take the next step of obedience).



