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Greeting/Welcome/Baptisms	

It's Time to Come Alive!

At the sound of Mary's greeting, Elizabeth's child leaped within her, and Elizabeth was filled with the Holy Spirit... "God has blessed you above all women, and your child is blessed... You are blessed because **you believed that the Lord would do what he said.**" Mary responded, "Oh, how my soul praises the Lord. How my spirit rejoices in God my Savior! For he took notice of his lowly servant girl, and from now on all generations will call me blessed. For the Mighty One is holy, and he has done great things for me. He shows mercy from generation to generation to all who fear him. His mighty arm has done tremendous things! He has scattered the proud and haughty ones. He has brought down princes from their thrones and exalted the humble. He has filled the hungry with good things and sent the rich away with empty hands. He has helped his servant Israel and remembered to be merciful. For he made this promise to our ancestors, to Abraham and his children forever." Luke 1:41-55 (NLT)

How to become "Alive"

1. When I turn my life completely over to the Life-Giver.

Mary responded, "I am the Lord's servant. May everything you have said about me come true." And then the angel left her. Luke 1:38 (NLT)

Elizabeth said to Mary, ... "God has blessed you above all women, and your child is blessed... You are blessed because you believed that the Lord would do what he said." Luke 1:42 & 45 (NLT)

My old self has been crucified with Christ. It is no longer I who live, but Christ lives in me. So I live in this earthly body by trusting in the Son of God, who loved me and gave himself for me. **Galatians 2:20 (NLT)**

2. When I openly <u>respond</u> to His life in me.

Mary responded, "Oh, how my soul praises the Lord. How my spirit rejoices in God my Savior!" Luke 1:46-47 (NLT)

3. When I begin to live out His <u>dream</u> and <u>purpose</u> for me, no matter where it takes me.

Mary responded, "I am the Lord's servant. May everything you have said about me come true." And then the angel left her. Luke 1:38 (NLT)

- To humbly love Him first and foremost, with every part of my life.
- To express His <u>love</u> and <u>truth</u> to everyone I meet, no matter who they are.
- To find and fulfill my place in His family.

For he took notice of his lowly servant girl, and from now on all generations will call me blessed. Luke 1:48 (NLT)

4. When I make fulfilling God's dream my primary desire.

..."I am the Lord's servant. May everything you have said about me come true."... Luke 1:38 (NLT)

And we know that God causes everything to work together for the good of those who love God and are called according to his purpose for them. Romans 8:28 (NLT)

Going deeper on your own. Read Luke chapter 1 several times noting key things that speak to you about Christ's birth. Pay close attention to the players (Elizabeth, Joseph, and Mary) and the place of birth, Bethlehem. Look up in your Bible commentary or go online to www.gotquestions.org and research the story. Make notes of what speaks to you. Then read John 1:1-7. What does John's gospel call Jesus? Answer the following questions: What does this tell me about Jesus? What does this tell me about me? What should I do now, knowing what I have learned? What is one thing you could do this Holiday Season to allow the Light and Life to be set free in your life?