

# Climbing Guide

*Suggestions for going further with today's theme at home.*



## Thinking about the Theme

- If you were told you would have a child (or a new brother or sister) this year, how would you react?

## Getting into God's Word

- Read Luke 1:26-38.
- How is what Gabriel tells Mary similar to what he told Zechariah in verses 13-17? How is it different?
- How does Mary's response (verses 34 and 38) differ from Zechariah's (verse 18)?
- What does Gabriel tell us about Jesus in his announcement (verses 31-33)?
- What kind of encouragement does Gabriel give to Mary in verses 35-37?

## Getting God's Word into Our Lives

- When were you recently fearful yet trusting in God?
- What does it mean to you to know "God is with you"?
- In what area of your life do you need to believe that "nothing is impossible with God"? What makes that hard?

## Praying about It

- Ask God for an awareness of his presence with you.
- Tell God you are willing to take on any assignment he might give you as long as he is with you.
- In your own words, express to God that you are his trusting servant.

## Doing Something to Make It Stick

- Every time you see a depiction of an angel this week, repeat the phrase, "The Lord is with me" and believe it.
- Read about Christians who have endured incredible difficulty or persecution with faithfulness:
  - *The Heavenly Man*, by Brother Yun & Paul Hattaway
  - *Tortured for Christ* by Richard Wormbrand
  - Books in the *Jesus Freak* series by DC Talk and Voice of the Martyrs

**Mount Zion's Christmas Cantata and Drama "O Holy Night"** will be held this Saturday, December 11th, at 6:30 pm, in the Sanctuary, followed by a reception in the Fellowship Hall.

**Small Group Leader Training** will be held on Saturday, December 11th, at 10 am for anyone interested in becoming a small group leader. To sign-up, please contact the Church Office by Thursday, December 9th.

### Winter Small Group Schedule:

- December 15th-Leadership Forms are due.
- December 15th-Small Group Information Forms are due--forms are available in the Narthex and the Fellowship Hall.
- December 19th-Winter Small Group Catalogs will be available
- January 2nd-Rally Day
- January 9th-Small Groups will begin this week.

The children will practice for their **Christmas musical** program next Sunday, December 12th, at 4 pm in the Sanctuary and on Saturday, December 18th at 10 am. The Children's Christmas musical program, "*Shepherds Sheep and a Savior*" will be at the 8:30 & 11:00 am Worship Services, on Sunday, December 19th.

**Christmas events/parties** are listed below, please contact your leader/ teacher for detailed information:

- December 12th United Methodist Youth Fellowship
- December 14th Morning Glory Women's Circle
- December 17th All high school graduates up to age 22 and current college students
- December 19th Share & Care Sunday School Class

There **will not be a 2011 calendaring meeting**. If you have not submitted your meetings/events for the 2011 calendar, please email to [sally@mountzion-umc.org](mailto:sally@mountzion-umc.org) or turn in to the Church office.

## Christmas Services

**Friday, December 24th, Christmas Eve:**

- **4 pm Family Interactive Service-Sanctuary**
- **8 pm Candlelight Communion Service-Sanctuary**
- **10 pm Candlelight Communion Service-Sanctuary**

**Sunday, December 26th**

- **5 pm Birthday Party for Jesus at Inspiration Station-Chapel**

