

# YEAR 6: AUTUMN 2 – HOW SIGNIFICANT IS IT THAT MARY WAS JESUS’ MOTHER?

RE: LEARNING TO ANALYSE THE CHRISTIAN BELIEF IN THE VIRGIN BIRTH AND TO ASSESS THE SIGNIFICANCE OF THIS TO CHRISTIANS

## TO RECALL, UNDERSTAND, DESCRIBE AND EXPLAIN

Recall/Vocabulary:	<i>Jesus</i>	<i>Mary</i>	<i>Elizabeth</i>	<i>Angel Gabriel</i>	<i>Nazareth</i>	<i>Galilee</i>	<i>Virgin</i>	<i>Joseph</i>
	<i>Descendant of David</i>		<i>Son of the Most High</i>		<i>Jacob’s descendants</i>	<i>Incarnation</i>	<i>Lord’s servant</i>	<i>Consummate</i>
	<i>Holy Spirit</i>	<i>Saviour</i>	<i>Servant</i>	<i>Messiah</i>	<i>Public disgrace</i>	<i>Divorce</i>	<i>Prophet</i>	<i>Immanuel</i>

Understand/Describe/ Explain:

**Re-visit and revise learning from Year 5 Autumn 1:**  
**Key concepts:** Jesus as the Son of God, born to Mary  
**Key vocabulary:** Jesus, Mary, Joseph, God, Angel Gabriel

### How significant is it that Mary was Jesus’ mother?

Luke 1:26-38

In the sixth month of **Elizabeth’s** pregnancy, God sent the **angel Gabriel** to **Nazareth**, a town in **Galilee**, to a virgin pledged to be married to a man named **Joseph**, a **descendant of David**. The virgin’s name was **Mary**. The angel went to her and said, “Greetings, you who are highly favoured! The Lord is with you.”

Mary was greatly troubled at his words and wondered what kind of greeting this might be. But the angel said to her, “Do not be afraid, Mary; you have found favour with God. You will conceive and give birth to a son, and you are to call him Jesus. He will be great and will be called the Son of the Most High. The Lord God will give him the throne of his father David, and he will reign over **Jacob’s descendants** forever; his kingdom will never end.”

“How will this be,” Mary asked the angel, “since I am a **virgin**?”

The angel answered, “The **Holy Spirit** will come on you, and the power of the Most High will overshadow you. So the holy one to be born will be called the Son of God. 36 Even Elizabeth your relative is going to have a child in her old age, and she who was said to be unable to conceive is in her sixth month. For no word from God will ever fail.”

“I am the **Lord’s servant**,” Mary answered. “May your word to me be fulfilled.” Then the angel left her.



### THINKING POINT:

**What was Mary’s first reaction? Why do you think she was scared?**

Luke 1:47-55 (Mary’s song)

and my spirit rejoices in God my Saviour,  
 for he has been mindful  
 of the humble state of his **servant**.  
 From now on all generations will call me blessed,  
 for the Mighty One has done great things for me—  
 holy is his name.  
 His mercy extends to those who fear him,  
 from generation to generation.  
 He has performed mighty deeds with his arm,  
 he has scattered those who are proud in their inmost thoughts.  
 He has brought down rulers from their thrones  
 but has lifted up the humble.  
 He has filled the hungry with good things  
 but has sent the rich away empty.  
 He has helped his servant Israel,  
 remembering to be merciful  
 to Abraham and his descendants forever,  
 just as he promised our ancestors.”



### THINKING POINT:

**Was Mary the Lord’s servant? Why do you think Mary was chosen to give birth to Jesus? What do we know about Mary? What was special about her? What clues do we have so far as to why God chose her to be Jesus’ mother?**

Matthew 1:18-25 – Joseph’s opinion



This is how the birth of Jesus the **Messiah** came about: His mother Mary was pledged to be married to Joseph, but before they came together, she was found to be pregnant through the Holy Spirit. Because Joseph her husband was faithful to the law, and yet did not want to expose her to **public disgrace**, he had in mind to **divorce** her quietly.

But after he had considered this, an angel of the Lord appeared to him in a dream and said, “Joseph son of David, do not be afraid to take Mary home as your wife, because what is conceived in her is from the Holy Spirit. She will give birth to a son, and you are to give him the name Jesus, because he will save his people from their sins.”

All this took place to fulfil what the Lord had said through the **prophet**: “The virgin will conceive and give birth to a son, and they will call him **Immanuel**” (which means “God with us”).

When Joseph woke up, he did what the angel of the Lord had commanded him and took Mary home as his wife. But he did not **consummate** their marriage until she gave birth to a son. And he gave him the name Jesus.



**THINKING POINT:**

**What is meant by ‘Joseph did not want to expose her to public disgrace’? Why was he going to divorce her or break off the engagement?**



Joseph thought that Mary was not actually a virgin at first and that she had betrayed him with another man. However, after the angel had visited Joseph, he realised that ‘what is conceived in her is from the Holy Spirit’- God had put the baby inside her.

A virgin was chosen to give birth to Jesus so it was obvious that she had not conceived the baby through sexual intercourse.



**THINKING POINT:**

**Why was Mary chosen? Why not somebody else who was also a virgin? Why did God send Jesus to earth this way? Why didn’t God send Jesus to earth through some other means?**

Incarnation

The word **incarnation** means ‘God in human form as Jesus’. It was important that Jesus was sent to earth in this way so people knew he was both God and man. If Jesus had been sent to earth by some other means, he would not have been ‘God and man’ – he would have just been God as he wouldn’t have taken on a human body (through birth).

‘The Word became flesh and made his dwelling among us. We have seen his glory, the glory of the one and only Son, who came from the Father, full of grace and truth.’ John 1:14



**THINKING POINT:**

**What does this extract (John 1:14) mean? Would people have listened to Jesus so much if he had been an ordinary man with two human parents and not the incarnation of God?**

**EXIT ASSESSMENT QUESTIONS:**

**EXS:**

- Have you ever been chosen to do something important? Why? How did you feel?
- Why was Mary chosen?

**GDS:**

- What clues do we have as to why God chose her to be Jesus’ mother?
- What is meant by public disgrace?
- Why not somebody else who was a virgin?
- Why did God send Jesus to earth through different means?