

LISTENING GUIDE

Luke 1:26-38 – Conceived by the Holy Spirit, Born...

1. We celebrate with joy because Jesus _____ our world and brought _____ to those in darkness.
2. Everyone knows something is _____.
3. The Bible is _____: The root disease is _____.
 - 1) We might openly _____ God's will.
 - 2) We might use _____ to not need God.
4. God orchestrated a divine _____ into this world.
 - 1) God _____ his love.
 - 2) God does the _____.
5. This gives me the opportunity to live with real _____ and _____.
6. I don't need to _____ the darkness of the world, but I can see the _____ and point others to it.

FOR FURTHER THOUGHT

QUESTIONS ARE PROVIDED FOR PERSONAL STUDY DURING THE WEEK.

1. Pastor mentioned that sometimes we rebel against God by using religion to not need him. (Compare Isaiah 1:11-15)
If you are honest with yourself, can you think of times when that was true in your life? Why was that the case?

Read Jeremiah 31:33-34. Consider composing a short prayer asking God to bring your heart close to him.

2. A main focus of this week's message was our ability to live with deep-rooted optimism and joy. That doesn't mean that we won't ever feel sadness, despair, or struggle with the darkness of the world. **Read through Psalm 42.** There David has an argument with himself.

Put David's thoughts in your own words. Can you relate?

What comfort or encouragement do you find as you read Psalm 42?

