

“Mary responded, “Oh, how my soul praises the Lord. For he made this promise to our ancestors, to Abraham and his children forever.” Luke 1:46, 55 NLT

[lectio] // LUKE 1:46-56

listen to the text by reading out loud slowly and repeat up to 3x if desired

I know it's just a word, but it's such a big word for a young girl to handle. Apparently, the New Living Translation is the only version to give Mary this profound word, the other versions just say, “Mary said.” Mary responded... not reacted, not ran. Then this beautiful aria pours out of her being. She ends by wisely putting ALL the pieces of history and mystery together like a religious pro - “he made this promise to our ancestors, to Abraham!” Whoa. This young servant girl, as she puts it, was able to make a connection that much of Israel still protestingly denies - this child is he messiah. Oh wise, beautiful Mary. Your name might mean bitter, but your joy is forever remembered as our salvation. You experienced the biggest fulfillment of God's promises than ever before - 🙌🙌🙌.

[oratio]

pray as responding to the words, phrase, sentence that God has stirred within you

Dad,

I thank you for Mary's humble obedience. I thank you for her simple grace and her beautiful words expressing the fulfillment we all long to see, “He shows mercy from generation to generation to all who fear him.” Please, show us mercy in this generation. Pour out your Spirit once again on those who fear you, on those who are broken from sins their parents and grandparents gave them a bitter inheritance. Bypass all the religious barriers and come to them individually and call their name. Extend to each one of them the offer you gave to me - be their Father and love them back into your arms.

[contemplatio]

rest in the presence of God, allowing the words revealed to take root