## Blessings, without the disguise

<sup>27</sup> As Jesus was saying these things, a woman in the crowd raised her voice and said, "Blessed is the womb that bore You, and blessed are the breasts that nursed You."

<sup>28</sup> But He replied, "Blessed rather are those who hear the word of God, and obey it."

Luke 11:27-28

Blessing
I am the
I am in the of blessing. 28  6. I am blessed
I am in the of being blessed. 28  9. I am blessed with

## Thought starters for personal reflection, or group study.

- 1. The New Testament has 2 words that are translated into English as 'blessing'. What is an example of each type of blessing?
- 2. What is something, that was so well-disguised, that you didn't see it as a blessing when it first arrived?
- 3. Read Luke 11:27-28. In both verses, 'bless' is *makarios*. How do you think she viewed blessings? How did Jesus want to deepen her understanding of blessings?
- 4. The woman in Luke 11:27 said Mary was blessed. What do these verses say about Mary and blessings: Luke 1:28,42,48? Do blessings remove problems, Luke 2:34-35, John 7:5?
- 5. Read James 1:2,12. Can bad events be a blessing? Can COVID-19 be a blessing? How do you measure a blessing?
- 6. Compare Luke 11:28 with John 13:17. Is it possible to miss out on God's blessings? Advise a friend of 2 ways to ensure being blessed.

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