Go For It!
2017-18
Month 2
Luke 1
Hello! Welcome to “Go For It”!
We are excited you have chosen to join us on this journey. Every quizzing season is an adventure and we are excited to provide this curriculum for Ruth & Luke (Part I). The purpose of the program is to encourage all quizzers to put their faith into action and to provide coaches with an accessible way to facilitate that progress.

Our prayer is that through these weekly “Go For It” devotionals, quizzers will be given the opportunity to deepen their understanding of the Scripture, learn to pray for others, and discover simple, but meaningful ways to put their faith into action. We want to be able to share how encouraging God’s words can be for them in their lives right now. Quizzers can make a difference in their communities, in their schools, and around the Globe today!

Each month the “Go For It” devotionals will be available through the Free Methodist Bible Quizzing Newsletter and through fmquizzing.net. The devotionals can be re-printed and distributed in whatever way is easiest for your Bible Quiz Ministry (electronic or paper). We only ask that you do not charge for the use of the curriculum. It is a free service that we are happy to provide. Each devotional has a theme verse, a lesson, a challenge, additional readings, a prayer focus, and a reflection piece. It is best if you can follow up with your quizzers each week to discuss and pray over the challenge or other aspects of the devotional. Finally, we ask that you join us in prayer for all who are going to Go For It!

God Bless,
Adam Schell & Lindsay Canon
And now you will be silent and not be able to speak until the day this happens, because you did not believe my words, which will come true at their appointed time. ~Luke 1: 20

Trusting God’s plan is never easy. We would all rather make our own plans and simply get God’s approval. But that is not a good representation of trust. God wants us to trust in Him but we all have something in our lives that pulls us away from trusting God’s plan. For Zechariah, it was the fact that he and Elizabeth were past the age for having children. He could not believe that this was God’s plan. Zechariah, as a priest, surely would have known the story of Abraham and Sarah bearing a child in advanced age, but he still did not believe that God could do the same in his own life. Sometimes we believe in God’s power and plan for other people, but not for ourselves.

God has a plan for your life. That is a fact. We may find ourselves asking God what is your plan? Sometimes the answers will be clearer than others, but we have to continue to ask and to trust that He holds our futures in His hands.

**Challenge:** This week, try to have a conversation with a friend, mentor, family member, coach, or pastor about a time in their faith when they had to rely on God and trust in His plan. Hearing testimonies of others who are growing in faith or have lived in faith for a time can be very helpful in understanding the sacrifice that is associated with trusting in God’s plan. But trust that it is worth it to Go For It!

**Weekly Prayer Focus:** Pastors and/or Quiz Coaches

(Day one) This week, I am going to

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_____________________________________________________

(Day seven) Reflections on the week:

_____________________________________________________

_____________________________________________________

**Additional Reading:** Jeremiah 29:11

☐ I read the additional reading
Week Two – What If I Am Not Qualified?

For no word from God will ever fail ~Luke 1:37

Mary did not feel qualified for the role the angel Gabriel presented her. She was to be the mother of the long-awaited Savior and she thought he was crazy. Why would God choose her? She was a young unmarried woman and probably the last person anyone would have predicted to bring the Savior into the world. Yet, just by the fact God had chosen her, she was automatically qualified.

Just like Mary, we are quick to unqualify ourselves and come up with our list of reasons: too young, too shy, too bold, too unorganized, too busy, the list goes on and on. Yet because God has chosen us to be His children, we are automatically qualified. We are valued in His eyes and capable of more than we could every accomplish on our own.

Challenge: This week, try to brainstorm with your quiz team or your youth group as a whole and come up with an area in your church or your area that you could benefit in these coming months. With the holidays approaching there are many ways to jump in on activities that are already planned. I.e. Food drives, clothing drives, turkey deliveries, etc. Whatever it may be, try to start the conversation this week with your team and leaders and see if your team can Go For It, you are more than qualified!

Weekly Prayer Focus: Church Community

(Day one) This week, I am going to

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(Day seven) Reflections on the week:

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Additional Reading: Matthew 6:26

☐ I read the additional reading
Week Three – How Can I Accept Blessings?

Blessed is she who has believed that the Lord would fulfill his promises to her ~Luke 1:45

As we discussed earlier in the month, trusting God is a life-long process. The journey of trust is marked by blessings and sorrows. In seasons of blessings, the question becomes how can we accept blessings in our life? How should we respond to blessings? Elizabeth says that Mary is blessed for believing in the Lord and how does Mary respond? She rejoices!

God wants us to rejoice and be happy. God calls us to be thankful for the blessings in our life. Think about all that God has provided for you in your life and be happy. As residents of America we are already blessed, but many times we focus on life’s frustrations rather than blessings. We focus on what we want, rather than what we have. Find places in your life to rejoice and be thankful for all God has provided.

Challenge: This week, write a list of the blessings in your life. Share with your family or quiz team if possible. Celebrate with one another the blessings you have and look for places to reflect on God’s blessings throughout the week.

Weekly Prayer Focus: Quizzing in the Philippines

(Day one) This week, I am going to
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(Day seven) Reflections on the week:
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Additional Reading: Psalms 5:11-12 & Psalms 13: 5-6
☐ I read the additional reading
And you my child, will be called a prophet of the Most High; for you will go on before the Lord to prepare the way for him ~Luke 1:76

Through Zechariah’s song we discover that his son, John, is to be a prophet who will prepare the way for Jesus’ coming. But how can we prepare the way for God and His message today? It begins with your own relationship with God and then it can grow from there. If we know God’s salvation and forgiveness in our own lives, we can then share it with others.

Luke records that “the child grew and became strong in spirit.” I think that is a great place to start. Grow strong in the spirit. Talk to God on a daily basis and let him direct you in how you can prepare the way. It may mean talking to a friend about quizzing or youth group. It may mean reading your portion in public. Or it may mean setting aside time in your day or week to help others in order to share God’s love.

Challenge: This week, try to find 5 minutes. Just 5 minutes a day, to stop and be with God. Pray over all of the Go For It devotions from these past months and pray that the verses in Ruth and Luke 1 will stay in your heart even when the monthly quiz is over. Pray that God will show you how you can Go For It in your own lives and communities.

Weekly Prayer Focus: Greenville College as they prepare for Nationals 2018

(Day one) This week, I am going to

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(Day seven) Reflections on the week:

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Additional Reading: 1\textsuperscript{st} Thessalonians 3:12-13

☐ I read the additional reading