LifeGroup Questions -- Come and See #2
A Mother's Encounter

1. Read Luke 1:30-33. The most common command in the Bible is "Do not Be Afraid." Think of some of other encounters that people had with Jesus that included fear or the challenge to not be afraid. What does that story or Mary's story help you deal with your fear?

2. The reason given to Mary for not being afraid was that she had found favor with God. Ephesians 1:6 indicates that God's favor is his kindness poured out on us because we belong to Christ. What are some ways that you have experienced the favor of God?

3. Lynn shared that shame and guilt are different. Guilt says that you did something bad. Shame says that you are something bad. Shame was the first negative emotion that entered the garden of Eden. It causes us to hide. It isolates us and disconnects us from God and others. It whispers in our ears, you will never be good enough. Describe a time, a way when shame affected your relationship with God or with others.

4. Read Hebrews 12:1-12. Lynn had four takeaways. A) We deeply desire intimacy. B) Satan uses shame to disconnect us. C) The road past shame requires vulnerability and the courage to be known. D) Jesus has defeated shame for us. Which takeaway is most important for you?

5. Read 2 Corinthians 2:13. Sherilyn's first point was that the fragrance of Jesus in you will influence others long after you are gone. Describe a time when someone with the fragrance of Jesus influenced you. (Could be but doesn't have to be a mom.)

6. Read Matthew 26:7-10. Jesus was moved by Mary's sacrifice. The disciples thought it was wasteful. Have you ever given a gift that someone else thought was wasteful? When have you been moved by someone else's sacrifice?

7. Read Luke 11:27-28. It is a greater blessing to be a follower of Christ, than it is to be the mother of God. What are some ways in our culture, even our church culture that we ignore that truth? What would it look like if we believed it?

8.   What is your primary application point from the weekend's message?