



Elizabeth & Zachariah | Luke 1:5-25; 57-80

1. Christmas decorations. How early is too early?
2. What do we learn about the character of Zechariah and Elizabeth in the opening verses of this passage?
3. Why was Zechariah chosen to enter the temple to burn incense, and what significance does this hold?
4. How did Zechariah react to the angel Gabriel's announcement about the birth of John the Baptist? What can we learn from his response?
5. What does the angel's message reveal about the role and significance of John the Baptist in the plan of God?
6. In what ways can we relate to the experience of Zechariah and Elizabeth, who were righteous and faithful yet faced personal wrestles, specifically in their case, with regard to having children?
7. Was God striking Zachariah mute a punishment or a gift of His grace? How much room do you make in your journey of faith for silence? Can you think of a time when you've heard God/responded to God because of silence?
8. Reflect on the joy and amazement of the neighbours and relatives when Elizabeth gave birth. What emotions might they have experienced, and why?
9. Consider the significance of the naming ceremony for John. Why did the people expect him to be named after his father, and what is the significance of him being named John? Is there a link between John's obedience in this moment and the freeing of his speech?
10. Examine Zechariah's song of praise (Benedictus) in verses 68-79. What key themes and prophecies does he express, and how do they relate to the broader biblical narrative? Does anything here strike you afresh or need clarity because it doesn't make sense?
11. How does the birth and naming of John the Baptist set the stage for the coming of Jesus? What connections can you find between John's mission and the role of the Messiah?
12. In what ways can we apply the themes of faith, prophecy, and God's intervention in our own lives as we seek to fulfil God's purposes?



What did you discover about God in this passage?
What did you discover about people in this passage?
How will you commit to obey this passage this week?
With whom will you share what you have learned?

