



The Song of Zechariah

ACT ONE: The Waiting (Luke 1:5-7)

Zechariah and Elizabeth were righteous in the sight of God... but they were childless because Elizabeth was not able to conceive, and they were both very old. Luke 1:6a,7

They were waiting for the Messianic prophecies to be fulfilled, from verses like Genesis 12:2,3; 2 Samuel 7:16; and Malachi 4:2-6.

ACT TWO: The Answer (Luke 1:8-25)

The angel said to him: "Do not be afraid, Zechariah; your prayer has been heard. Your wife Elizabeth will bear you a son, and you are to call him John... And he will go on before the Lord, in the spirit and power of Elijah..." Luke 1:13,17

ACT THREE: The Response (Luke 1:57-79)

His father Zechariah was filled with the Holy Spirit and prophesied: "Praise be to the Lord, the God of Israel, because he has come to his people and **redeemed** them...
...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, to give his people the knowledge of **salvation** through the **forgiveness of their sins**, because of the **tender mercy** of our God..." Luke 1:67-68;76-78a

Zechariah's aha moment: What we need most is a _____.

"The heart of the human problem is the problem of the human heart."
- Max Lucado

Everyone thought their problem was

- Political
- National
- Moral

Their real problem was

- _____

What will your response be?

DISCUSSION QUESTIONS

1. What about the sermon stood out or impacted you the most?
 2. Read Luke 1:5-7. Do you have something in your life that you have wanted to happen for a long time, but it hasn't, so you now assume it will never happen or is impossible? Is it possible that there is something God has for you to learn in that wait? Do you have any idea what that might be?
 3. Read Luke 1:76-77. Zechariah outlines John's role as preparer and ambassador of Jesus. While John may have been the first to fill this role, it's also the role given to every believer! What could this look like in your life?
 4. Read Luke 1:78-79. Zechariah describes Jesus as the sun breaking at dawn (quoting Malachi 4:2). In what ways is Jesus like the light of the sun to you?
- Please pray for our Christmas services, that God would be glorified and many would hear the good news!

LIFE AT TLC

NEW TO TLC?

- Fill out the **welcome card** in the seat in front of you or go to tlc.org/new
- Pick up a **gift bag** at our info desk
- Sign up to receive our newsletter at tlc.org/newsletter

GIVING GROVE

- TLC serves with community partners to provide gifts for those in need. Pick up an ornament in the lobby today and bring back a gift!

HOLIDAY HELPERS NEEDED

- Join the childcare and greeting teams for Christmas services! tlc.org/christmas

CHRISTMAS WEEKEND SERVICES

Christmas Services invitation cards are available in the lobby.
All Christmas info at TLC.ORG/CHRISTMAS

Candlelight Services

Dec 23 4:30, 6pm; Dec 24 3, 4:30, 6pm

Remembering Service (for those grieving a loved one)

Dec 23 7:15pm, Monschke Hall

Servicio de Velas

Dec 24 6pm, Monschke Hall

Christmas Morning Family Service

Dec 25 10am: Free Christmas brunch!