

LUKE SERMON SERIES - DEVOTIONAL

NORTHVIEW COMMUNITY CHURCH

DAY 1

THE CHARACTERS: Zechariah and John

Read Luke 1:67-80 and take note of what we learn about Zechariah and his son.

Zechariah:

- How was he able to prophesy?
- Compare Zechariah's response here to his response earlier in the narrative (See Luke 1:18-21). What seems to be different about him? Why do you think he has changed?

John (the child):

- What does Zechariah say that his child will be called and what will he do?
- How does Luke summarize John's growing up years?

As you pray today, reflect on how God has grown you throughout your life. What is some evidence that you are growing in faith?

Pray in Adoration / Confession / Supplication

DAY 2

THE CHARACTERS: God

Read Luke 1:67-80 and take note of what Luke teaches us about God the Father.

- What does Zechariah call God?
- Why does Zechariah praise God?
 - List some of the things Zechariah says that God does.
- How did God speak long ago?
 - What does this tell you about God's plans?
- What was included in God's holy covenant/his oath to Abraham according to verses 74-75??

Pray in Adoration / Confession / Supplication

DAY 3

THE PROPHECY

Read Luke 1:67-75.

- Who/what do you think Zechariah is talking about in the first half of his prophecy? Let's refresh our memories about what we have already studied about Zechariah:
 - What did Gabriel tell Zechariah about his son (1:17)?
 - What did Elizabeth (Zechariah's wife) say about Mary's son when Mary visited their house (1:41-45)?
 - What did Mary know about the child she was carrying (1:31-33)?
 - Remember also that Mary stayed with Zechariah and Elizabeth for 3 months
 - So putting all this together, who/what is Zechariah talking about in verses 68-70?
 - How does this information regarding Mary's son affect Zechariah's view of John's role (1:76-77)?

Reflect on how amazing it must have been for this elderly priest and his wife to be seeing and understanding the revealing of God's Messiah to Israel!

Pray in Adoration / Confession / Supplication

DAY 4

THE OLD TESTAMENT

Much like Mary's song, Zechariah's prophecy has a lot of Old Testament themes in it. Read the following passages and note how they shed light on his prophecy.

- Read Psalm 18:1-3. How did David (the writer) view God? What words does he use to describe him and how are they reflected in Zechariah's prophecy?
- Read Psalm 132:11-18. What did God promise to David? How does Zechariah see that being fulfilled in his day?
- In Luke 1:70 Zechariah says that God spoke through his holy prophets.
 - Read Jeremiah 23:5-6 and Micah 7:18-20.
 - What parts of these prophecies does Zechariah proclaim is being fulfilled?

Pray in Adoration / Confession / Supplication



DAY 5

THE RISING SUN

Read Luke 1:76-80.

- In the first part of Zechariah's prophecy, salvation is from Israel's enemies. What is salvation from in verse 77?
- What is being contrasted in verses 78-79?
 - What is the problem?
 - How is it solved?
 - What/who is symbolized by the "rising sun"? (Look up Malachi 4:1-2. How is this imagery used?)
- Now turn to John 1:1-13 and notice the similar language used by a different New Testament writer. Who is this Light that will shine in the darkness and guide our feet into the path of peace?

As you pray today, reflect on who in your life is still living in darkness.

Pray in Adoration / Confession / Supplication that God would shine his light in their hearts!