

Sermon Discussion Questions for Small Groups

Week of December 10th

Sermon Titled: "What Then Will This Child Be?"

Open in Prayer. Read Luke 1:57-80.

Discussion Questions

1. Are there any parts of the Bible that you find simply unbelievable? What about the main tenets of Christian faith (virgin birth, resurrection of Jesus, etc.)? Be honest in your conversation.
2. John's birth has three unusual features: (1) the old have given birth, (2) the child has a strange name, and (3) Zechariah's handicap is taken away after the child is named John in obedience to God. How does the crowd respond? Why is this?
3. Read Zechariah's song and prophecy (Luke 1:67-79).
 - a. Take note of God's actions in history to redeem His people (v.67-75). What verbs are used? What promises are fulfilled?
 - b. What were Zechariah's first words after God gave him the ability to speak again? What does this teach us about our wonder for God and our circumstances?
4. Who do we learn that this child will be (v. 66, 76-80)?

Application Questions

1. Pastor Mark talked about the need to understand the darkness before we can appreciate the light (v.78-79). Why is this true?
2. He talked about the different "seats of darkness" we may experience in our Christian life (e.g.- loneliness, work, relationships, addiction, infertility, loss, etc.). Discuss this together.
3. What does faith have to do with wonder? What makes us lose our wonder for God? How can we recapture it this Advent season?

Prayer Focus: Pray that you may have greater understanding of the darkness to more fully worship the light of Christ (v. 77-79). Pray for places in our city, country and world that are in great darkness.