

## Sermon Discussion Guide December 14, 2025

## Refresh

Read Luke 1:5-20 to get the Scripture passage back in your mind.

## **Discuss**

Luke intentionally compares the births of John the Baptist and Jesus. How does this comparison help us better understand the uniqueness and supremacy of Christ? How might we be tempted to minimize the uniqueness and supremacy of Christ in our lives today?

Zechariah and Elizabeth lived righteously during a 400-year period of prophetic silence. Why is it so challenging to continue to trust God in seasons when He seems silent? What does their faithfulness teach us about trusting God when He seems silent?

Luke is careful to show that Elizabeth's barrenness was not due to God's displeasure. How does this challenge the idea that obedience always leads to ease or blessing? How should this shape the way we view suffering, whether it's our own or that of others?

Pastor Mark mentioned that God delayed answering Zechariah and Elizabeth's prayers for a child in order to fulfill a greater purpose. How does this truth both comfort and challenge you when your prayers go unanswered or seem delayed?

Zechariah's muteness was both a consequence and a temporary discipline. How does this passage help us understand the difference between God's loving discipline and His condemnation? How does this fit into how God treats His children in light of the gospel?

John's calling was to prepare people for the coming of Christ. In what ways are we "preparing the way for the Lord" in our own lives? What does this practically look like in the life of a believer?