



HARK! — Zechariah

Sermon Discussion Questions – December 3, 2023

Scripture Passages:

Luke 1:57 When it was time for Elizabeth’s baby to be born, she gave birth to a son.

Luke 1:13 But the angel said, “Don’t be afraid, Zechariah! God has heard your prayer. Your wife, Elizabeth, will give you a son, and you are to name him John.

Luke 1:18 Zechariah said to the angel, “How can I be sure this will happen? I’m an old man now, and my wife is also well along in years.”

Luke 1:19–20 Then the angel said, “I am Gabriel! I stand in the very presence of God. It was he who sent me to bring you this good news! But now, since you didn’t believe what I said, you will be silent and unable to speak until the child is born. For my words will certainly be fulfilled at the proper time.”

Luke 1:59–66 When the baby was eight days old, they all came for the circumcision ceremony. They wanted to name him Zechariah, after his father. But Elizabeth said, “No! His name is John!” “What?” they exclaimed. “There is no one in all your family by that name.” So they used gestures to ask the baby’s father what he wanted to name him. He motioned for a writing tablet, and to everyone’s surprise he wrote, “His name is John.” . . . “What will this child turn out to be?”

Luke 1:64 Instantly Zechariah could speak again, and he began praising God.

Luke 15:22 “But his father said to the servants, ‘Quick! Bring the finest robe in the house and put it on him. Get a ring for his finger and sandals for his feet.

Luke 1:46–47 . . . My soul glorifies the Lord and my spirit rejoices in God my Savior...

Luke 1:68 “Praise the Lord, the God of Israel, because he has visited and redeemed his people.”

Luke 1:69–70 He has raised up a horn of salvation for us in the house of his servant David (as he said through his holy prophets of long ago)...

Luke 1:77 You will tell his people how to find salvation through forgiveness of their sins.

Luke 1:78-79 Because of God’s tender mercy, the morning light from heaven is about to break upon us, to give light to those who sit in darkness and in the shadow of death, and to guide us to the path of peace.”

Luke 1:48 (NLT) “You are blessed because you believed that the Lord would do what he said.”

Warm Up: Advent started today! Do you or your family have any traditions that you do for Advent?

Discussion:

1. This week we continued our Christmas series. Besides Advent traditions, does your family have any Christmas traditions that you do?
2. Pastor Tom presented us with these two questions:
 - Will I question God?
 - Will I trust God?Which question do you find yourself defaulting to? Why do you think that is?
3. Read Luke 1:59-66. How does naming their baby John show Elizabeth and Zechariah’s faithfulness to God? What does Zechariah getting his voice back show about God? How does that show God’s faithfulness to us?
4. What can we learn about praise from Zechariah? Why do we praise God? What does praise mean to you?

5. Ready Luke 1:78-79. What do we learn about God's mercy in these verses? What do we learn about Jesus's coming in these verses?

Next Steps:

Pastor Tom ended with these two points of application:

- Where is God asking you to trust him instead of question him?
- Is God's blessing of you waiting for your obedience to Him?

How would you answer these questions? What next steps do you feel God may be calling you to this season?