

~~Impossible~~ Christmas

Week 2- Elizabeth's Story Luke 1:5-25

Check out one of these helpful resources:

Christmas – RightNow Media: <https://bit.ly/3lQKhbm>

Emmanuel – RightNow Media: <https://bit.ly/4f0dky0>

Hidden Christmas: The Surprising Truth Behind the Birth of Christ – Timothy Keller:
<https://bit.ly/3Vo3yOW>

Allow God to speak to you through his written Word. The goal of this time is to have quality connection and time together. Choose questions from Know, Grow, and Show that will best help your group discuss the passage and take their next steps of faith. Don't feel like you need to use all the questions. Feel free to add your own too! We are praying for you as you lead your D-Group this week!

KNOW (Build Relationships)

- Share about a time when you had to wait for something important. How did that season impact your relationship with God?
- What's the longest you've ever waited for an answer to prayer, and how did you maintain hope during that time?
- Can you recall a moment when something you thought was impossible actually happened? How did that experience strengthen your faith?
- When have you felt misunderstood or judged because of circumstances beyond your control? How did you navigate those feelings?
- Who has been an example to you of maintaining faith through difficulty, and what did you learn from their journey?
- How do you typically respond when you see others receiving blessings you've been praying for yourself?
- When was the last time you experienced unexpected joy during a challenging situation, and what did that moment teach you?



GROW: (Grow Spiritually)

- Luke 1:5-7 introduces us to Elizabeth and Zechariah as "righteous before God, walking blamelessly." How does this description challenge the common assumption that suffering is always a result of sin? Reference: Job 1:1, 8 - Consider Job's similar description as "blameless and upright"
- What significance do you find in the fact that both Elizabeth and Zechariah came from priestly lineage (v.5)? How might their heritage have shaped their understanding of God's promises? Reference: Numbers 18:1-7 - Regarding the priestly lineage
- Verse 13 says, "Your prayer has been heard." What does this reveal about God's timing versus our timing? "God's delays are not God's denials." - Charles Spurgeon
- Compare Elizabeth's response to her pregnancy with Sarah's response in Genesis 18:9-15. What differences do you notice, and what might account for these differences?
- Looking at verses 14-17, what specific purposes did God have for John's life before he was even conceived? How might this inform our understanding of God's sovereignty?
- What does Elizabeth's seclusion for five months (v.24) suggest about processing seasons of blessing and transition?
- Consider Elizabeth's statement in verse 25 about God taking away her "reproach among people." How does this reflect both the cultural context and God's redemptive work? Quote: "God never wastes a hurt." - Rick Warren
- How does Elizabeth's story foreshadow Mary's larger narrative, and what does this tell us about God's pattern of working through unlikely circumstances?
- What role does community play in this passage, particularly regarding how Elizabeth's situation was perceived by others? Reference: Romans 12:15 - "Rejoice with those who rejoice, weep with those who weep"



SHOW: (Live on Mission)

- What situation in your life currently challenges you to trust God's timing, and what practical steps can you take this week to demonstrate that trust?
- How can you intentionally shift your focus from what you're waiting for to deeper reliance on and relationship with the Giver?
- What "impossible" challenge are you facing that you need to surrender to God's sovereignty, and how will you entrust it to Him this week?
- Who in your life is in a waiting season, and what specific action will you take this week to encourage and support them?
- What practical steps can you take to maintain faith and actively serve God and others while waiting for His answers?