

Name: \_\_\_\_\_

Date: \_\_\_\_\_

## ZACHARIAS AND ELIZABETH

*“The eyes of the LORD are on the righteous, and His ears are open to their cry.” (Psalm 34:15)*

### Objectives

<i>Knowledge of God’s Will</i>	God uses His people to accomplish His plan. The births of John and Jesus are the saving acts of God that fulfilled His promise to the people.
<i>Knowledge of God</i>	God is all-knowing and all-powerful. God does the impossible to fulfill His prophecies.
<i>Good Work</i>	Entrust our worries to God with faith. Wait patiently for God to answer us in His own timing.

### A. Who were Zacharias and Elizabeth?

Zacharias and Elizabeth were described as “righteous before God, walking in all the commandments and ordinances of the Lord blameless” (Lk 1:6). Despite the social stigma and shame of being childless, their troubles brought them closer to, not further from, God.

### B. An Angel of the Lord Appears to Zacharias (Lk 1:8–17)

We can see both Zacharias’ faith in God and his doubt. He had turned to God for help in prayers, but he was unable to trust God’s promise because of his inability to understand that with God, all things are possible. As a result, he became mute until his son’s birth.

### C. Elizabeth Becomes Pregnant

Because of her age, Elizabeth’s pregnancy was truly a miracle. God’s work is beyond human understanding. He is truly the only one who can solve all of our worries and problems. Later, Elizabeth’s reaction to Mary’s greeting tells us of her relationship with God. She understood God’s plan for His people, she was full of humility, and she knew her pregnancy was to fulfill God’s plan.

### D. The Birth of John the Baptist (Lk 1:57–66)

John’s birth was a remarkable event. Elizabeth’s decision that his name would be John brought much confusion, but when asked, Zacharias clarified this in writing, and in that moment, he could speak again.

### Zacharias’ Prophecy (Lk 1:67–79)

1. *The Meaning of Salvation:* Zacharias’ prophecy heralds the salvation at hand. God’s plan is about to be set in motion, and mankind will soon be delivered from death through the remission of sins.
2. *John’s Mission:* John served as both warning and herald. His mission in life was to prepare everyone for the coming gospel and to lay the groundwork for Jesus’ mission of repentance.

### Life Application

1. We should never give up on the things we have entrusted to God.
2. God often waits until the situation is humanly impossible before He answers.

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## Lesson 1 Homework Assignment

### Zacharias and Elizabeth

	Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
Read							
Pray							

Memory Verse (Psalm 34:15):

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1. What does the memory verse teach us about what God wants for us?
2. What kind of stigma did Zacharias and Elizabeth have to live with? How did they deal with it?
3. What does Zacharias' reaction to Gabriel's words tell us about his faith at the time?
4. What does Elizabeth's reaction to Mary's greeting tell us about her relationship with God?
5. What key lesson does this story teach us about God's response to our prayers?
6. Have you ever prayed for a long time with seemingly no answer from God? After today's lesson, how will you deal with this in the future?