

Our Wars: A New Beginning **A study of Luke**

Luke 1:5-25 Birth of John the Baptist Foretold

Open

1. What significant events happened the year you were born?
2. What experiences of complete surprise have you recently had?
3. At this point in your life, what do you consider your most important responsibilities?

Explore

4. (vv. 5-7) What stands out to you about Zechariah and Elizabeth?
5. Barrenness was seen as a sign of God's disfavor, and a legitimate reason for divorce. What feelings might the couple have had in light of their barrenness?
6. How well did they handle the frustration of childlessness? (vv. 6, 13, 25)
7. (vv. 8-10) For what duty was Zechariah chosen by lot? What was the significance of this task? (I Chron: 23:13) Since many priests never had this opportunity, what might he be feeling as he prepares for it? How about when the angel appears?
8. How would the birth of this son affect Zechariah and Elizabeth?
9. Why would Zechariah doubt the angel?
10. In the meantime, how were the people feeling? What did they think when Zechariah emerged from the temple, mute?
11. How many miracles are referred to in this passage? (vv. 9, 11, 20, 24)

Apply

12. When was the last time you doubted God? What caused your doubt?
13. When have you doubted the reality of God's provision for you?
14. What could God do in a person's life today that would have as big an impact as the angel's visit to Zechariah?
15. What long-term frustration can you identify in your life that needs to be entrusted to God?