



## Week 1 – December 8-14

*Passages:* Luke 1:5-25, 57-80, 3:2-6, John 1:6-9

### Monday

Read Luke 1:5-25.

1. What do we learn about Zechariah and Elizabeth in these verses? What do we learn about God? Which of these learnings is most meaningful to you, and why? What questions do you have?
2. List the things the angel says about John the Baptist. What is most striking to you, and what questions do you have?
3. **Reflect:** Write a prayer Zechariah and Elizabeth could have prayed during their time of barrenness.

### Tuesday

Read Luke 1:57-80.

1. What more do we learn about Zechariah and Elizabeth in this passage? About John the Baptist?
2. What does Zechariah praise God for? What is most meaningful to you from his prayer, and what questions do you have?
3. **Reflect:** Think of a difficult time in your life when God blessed you. Write a prayer of praise, perhaps using the general formula, “I was...and You...”.

### Wednesday

Read Luke 3:2-6.

1. What types of leaders are described in verses 1 and 2? Who is the focus of this passage? What does this tell us about God?
2. How would you describe John’s message in verse 3 to someone who is outside the faith but inside your reach (without using “church words”)?
3. **Dig Deeper:** Read Isaiah 40:1-5 (If you have time, read the whole chapter – it’s amazing!). What situation were God’s people in when these words were spoken? How would these words have encouraged the first hearers? In what ways did they point past their present circumstances to a larger reality?

## Thursday

Read John 1:6-9.

1. What do we learn about John in these verses?
2. What do we learn about Jesus? Why is “light” a helpful metaphor for Him?
3. **Reflect:** In what ways have you been bearing witness about Jesus to others lately? What are some specific ways you can do that more this Christmas season? Ask God to lead you and write any thoughts that come.

## Friday

1. Look back over your notes from the week. Of all the things you read about God in these passages, which is most meaningful to you? Write a brief prayer of praise.
2. What stands out to you about Zechariah and Elizabeth? What stands out about John the Baptist? Do you know someone who displays one or more of these qualities? What about them most encourages or inspires you, and why?
3. **Reflect:** Write a note to Zechariah and Elizabeth in the days of their barrenness, knowing what you know now. What would you tell them? How might that message encourage you today?

## Group Discussion Questions

Read Luke 1:5-25.

1. Share a time when you had an ongoing, unmet longing. What were you saying to God? Feeling about Him? What was the outcome?
2. What do we learn about Zechariah and Elizabeth in this passage? Is there anything encouraging or inspiring about their example?
3. List the things the angel says about John the Baptist in these verses. What is most striking to you, and what questions do you have?
4. What do we learn about angels in this passage?
5. How might Zechariah’s consequence for his questioning feel unfair? How do you imagine God would respond to this claim?
6. What do we learn about God in this passage? What is meaningful to you today, and why? What questions do you have?

## Week 2 – December 15-21

Passage: Matthew 1:18-25

### Monday

1. Today, we'll look at the context for this week's passage. In Matthew 1:1, Jesus is described as the Son of David. Read 2 Samuel 7:12-17. How did this prophecy point to Solomon, David's son? How did it point past Solomon to Jesus?
2. Jesus is also described as the son of Abraham. Read Genesis 12:1-3. How did Jesus fulfill that prophecy?
3. Skim through the names in the genealogy. What strikes you about the list? What does it teach us about God?

### Tuesday

1. What do we learn about Joseph in these verses? What stands out to you?
2. How did God speak to Joseph? What is meaningful about that, and what questions do you have?
3. **Reflect:** Picture the conversations between Mary and her parents, and between Mary and Joseph, as she tried to explain what happened. What do you imagine those conversations were like for Mary? For her parents? For Joseph?

### Wednesday

1. Write out the words of the angel to Joseph, thinking about each word as you write. What strikes you?
2. Why do you think the angel had to tell Joseph not to be afraid?
3. **Reflect:** If you could ask Joseph five questions, what would you ask him? What would you ask Mary?

### Thursday

1. If verses 21-23 were all we knew about Jesus, what would we know about Him?
2. Which words in this passage point to the humanity of Jesus? Which words point to His divinity?
3. **Dig Deeper:** The passage quotes Isaiah 7:10-16. Read the passage. In context, what was the prophecy about? How does this prophecy encourage you, and what questions do you have?

### Friday

1. Where do you see the grace (undeserved kindness) of God in this passage? Write a brief prayer of praise.
2. Think of someone who is outside the faith but inside your reach. What do you most wish they could know and experience from this passage? Pray for them as you write.
3. **Dig Deeper:** In verse 23, Jesus is called Immanuel, which means "God with us." Read Revelation 21:1-4. How is this passage an expression of "God with us," and how does it make you feel?

### Group Discussion Questions

1. Talk about a time you were blamed for something you didn't do. How did that feel? Did the accuser(s) ever believe you?
2. What do we learn about Joseph in these verses? What stands out to you?
3. Have one person slowly read aloud the words of the angel to Joseph. What do we learn?
4. If you could ask Joseph five questions, what would you ask him? What would you ask Mary?
5. Where do you see the grace (undeserved kindness) of God in this passage?
6. Think of someone who is outside the faith but inside your reach. What do you most wish they could know and experience from this passage?

## **Week 3 – December 22-28 (No group discussion questions this week.)**

*Passages:* Luke 1:26-38, 2:1-7, 2:22-38

### Monday

Read Luke 1:26-38.

1. Why was Mary troubled? What did the angel say to reassure her? What do we learn from this, and what questions do you have?
2. List the things the angel tells Mary about Jesus. What strikes you about this?
3. **Practice:** Write out verse 38 three times. Pray those words as you write them. What thoughts come to mind?

### Tuesday

Read Luke 2:1-7.

1. The occupying Romans commanded all Jews to return to their original towns. Joseph and Mary's journey from Nazareth to Bethlehem would have been about 80 miles and taken at least 4-5 days. Imagine what it was like for them, especially with Mary pregnant. What thoughts come to mind?
2. What do you picture when you think about the night of Jesus' birth? What details are actually given in the text? (Note: The Greek word translated "inn" usually refers to a guest room in a house. See Luke 22:11, where the same Greek word is used.)
3. **Dig Deeper:** In Micah 5:2-4, Micah prophesies that the Messiah will be born in Bethlehem. List all the people and factors that led to Joseph and Mary being in Bethlehem. What does this teach you about God?

### Wednesday

Read Luke 2:22-35.

1. What do we learn about Simeon in these verses? What about him encourages you? What questions do you have?
2. List the things Simeon says about Jesus. What strikes you?
3. **Reflect:** There is a note of sadness in Simeon's last statement to Mary. Imagine you had a baby and were given such a prophecy. How do you imagine it would impact you as your child grew up?

### Thursday

Read Luke 2:36-38.

1. What do we learn about Anna in these verses? What thoughts and feelings do these learnings evoke in you?
2. Why do you think God revealed Jesus' identity as the Messiah to Simeon and Anna? What does this teach us?
3. **Reflect:** What was Anna's response to the news? How is your response like Anna's? How is it different?

### Friday

1. Look back over the week's passages. Where do you see "uncertainty" (the theme of this sermon series)?
2. What primary message do you sense God giving you through these passages this week? Ask Him and write any thoughts that come.
3. **Reflect:** As you enter 2026, where is there "uncertainty" in your life? Write a brief prayer to God about that.