

## A Wonderful Announcement - Luke 1:5-25

1. The **Circumstances** of the Story (5-7)
  - A. Zechariah and Elizabeth were “**righteous** before God” (6).
  - B. Zechariah and Elizabeth were well **past** childbearing years (7).
2. The **Conversation** That Occurred with Gabriel (8-17)
  - A. It was Zechariah’s **turn** to burn incense (8-9)  
Two-fold purpose of incense:
    - 1) **Thanksgiving**
    - 2) **Petitions**
  - B. The people were just outside, **praying** (10).
  - C. The right side was reserved for **God** (11).
  - D. Zechariah was **troubled** (12).
  - E. The angel’s message (13-17).
    - 1) Fear **not** (13a).
    - 2) Your prayer has been **heard** (13b).
    - 3) Great **joy** resulted (14-17).

*Indeed I have all and abound. I am full, having received from Epaphroditus the things sent from you, a sweet-smelling aroma, an acceptable sacrifice, well pleasing to God. And my God shall supply all your need according to His riches in glory by Christ Jesus. Now to our God and Father be glory forever and ever. Amen. (Philippians 4:18-20)*

3. The **Culmination** of All These Things (18-25)
  - A. Zechariah’s lack of **faith** (18).
  - B. Gabriel’s **answer** (19-22).
  - C. Elizabeth’s **conception** (23-24a).
  - D. Elizabeth’s joyful **confession** (24a-25).

### Sermon Follow Up Guide

**Memory Verse:** *But the angel said to him, “Do not be afraid, Zacharias, for your prayer is heard; and your wife Elizabeth will bear you a son, and you shall call his name John. (Luke 1:13)*

**Prayer:** Lord, help me to not have unbelief. Strengthen my faith in such a way, that I would never doubt your ability to work your power in any situation of my life. Thank you Lord for giving us an abiding hope through our Lord and Savior, Jesus Christ.

**Reading Plan:**

Monday	Jeremiah 29	Friday	John 1
Tuesday	Psalms 62	Saturday	John 3
Wednesday	Psalms 91	Sunday	Philippians 4
Thursday	Malachi 3		

**Song for the Week:** *I Have a Hope*, by Tommy Walker

**Consider:**

- How do you think Elizabeth felt about her inability to conceive?
- Think about the significance of Zechariah’s position as the lot fell to him to offer incense in the Temple.
- Do you believe Zechariah understood the tremendous impact of his experience as the Angel of the Lord appeared before him?
- According to Luke 1:13-17, a description of John the Baptist as being a forerunner of Jesus is given. Think about the significance of this information in relation to the coming of Messiah.
- Think about the abundant joy this couple experienced when they realized that Elizabeth had conceived a baby. This answer to prayer was surely a gift from God. A hopeless situation was turned into HOPE!
- Look at Malachi chapter 3 and read the prediction that John would be a messenger who would go before the Messiah. Think about God’s wonderful power as He fulfills all prophecy.

**Application:**

- When all hope seems lost, we must wait on the Lord to answer our prayers.
- The Lord’s plan for every believer’s life is to be blessed. All we must do is look to Him.
- Whatever problem one has in life, one must submit it to God completely and allow Him to work His power.

**Next Week’s Message – The Incarnation – John 1:1,14**