

CERTAINTY FOR UNCERTAIN PEOPLE

Luke 1:5-79

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This discussion guide is designed for Saylorville Church Community Groups as they live and learn together each week. The sermons and guides can be found at www.saylorvillechurch.com/sermons.

CONNECT WITH YOUR GROUP (10-15 MINUTES)

- What is one area of life where you wish you had more certainty about the future?
- When life feels uncertain, where do you naturally look for reassurance or security?

APPLY THE BIBLE (45-60 MINUTES)

- **Remember** what you talked about last time. Is there anything you need to **follow up** on this week?
- **Review** your Sermon Notes together. What is **one thing** that sticks out to you about what you learned?
- **Read** this week's passage together. In his message, Pastor Colton reminded us that God's faithfulness does not depend on the stability of our circumstances, the strength of our faith, or the extent of our abilities.

God's Promises...

1. God's Promises Are Certain, Even in Uncertain Circumstances (Luke 1:5-7 and Luke 1:78-79)

- *Luke introduces Zechariah following centuries without a new prophetic word from God, yet God was about to fulfill promises that had been generations in the making.*
 - How might the political, spiritual, and personal circumstances surrounding Zechariah and Elizabeth have made it difficult to trust God's promises? What similarities do you see between their world and ours?
 - When you remember the darkness that we live in, what promises from God do you turn to the most?

2. God's Promises Are Certain, Even with Uncertain Faith (Luke 1:8-20 and Luke 1:34-38)

- *Zechariah was a faithful priest who knew God's Word, yet when Gabriel announced that God was answering his prayers, Zechariah struggled to believe.*
 - What promises sometimes seem unbelievable? What encourages you to remember the writer of the promises? Read James 1:6 and talk about how this verse might make a difference.
 - Consider the statement: "You don't have to understand HOW God will do something to believe He CAN do something." Is there something God is calling you to do through His Word that feels beyond your ability or understanding? What would trusting Him look like in that situation?

3. God's Promises Are Certain, Even with Uncertain Ability (Luke 1:19-25)

- *Zechariah and Elizabeth both knew what it felt like to be sidelined, yet neither had been forgotten by God.*
 - In what areas of your life might you have the tendency to trust in your abilities rather than trusting that God would use you in spite of your broken abilities? How has this message adjusted your thinking?
 - God promises eternal life to those who believe in Him. Do you believe this? How can you live this out day to day and share it with those around you?

Receive and Respond: What will I do because of what I just heard?

PRAY TOGETHER (5-15 MINUTES)

- As you close, encourage your group to pray specifically for one another.
 - **Praise God for His faithfulness.** Thank Him that His promises never fail, even when our circumstances and faith are uncertain.
 - **Pray for renewed faith.** Ask God to restore your confidence in His Word and your willingness to obey Him even when you cannot see how He will work.
 - **Pray for those experiencing uncertainty.** Lift up group members facing difficult circumstances, long seasons of waiting, or feelings of being sidelined.
 - **Pray for Gospel boldness.** Ask God to give your group confidence to share the certain hope of Jesus Christ with people living in an uncertain world.

