FAITH THAT SHOUTS FOR JOY!

PAT NEMMERS

Luke 1:57-80

November 22, 2026

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)

- When was the last time you were so excited or grateful about something that you couldn't help but tell others? Talk about that experience with your group.

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 Pat challenged us to respond in joy to the gospel - and to tell others!

Faith that Shouts for Joy…

1. Obeys God (Luke 1:59-64; John 14:21; James 2:17; Romans 1:5; 16:26)

- *Zechariah demonstrated his renewed faith by affirming Elizabeth's words and obeying God's instruction to name his son John, even though it went against the expectations of those around him.*
  - Why was Zechariah's decision to name his son John such a significant act of faith?
  - Where might you be tempted to prioritize the expectations of others over obedience to God's Word? What is one area where you need to take a step of obedient faith?

2. Blesses God (Luke 1:64, 67-79; John 3:30)

- *Immediately after Zechariah's tongue was loosened, he began blessing God. He also recognized that his son John would prepare the way for the Messiah.*
  - What specific reasons does Zechariah give for praising God in these passages? Consider God's visitation, redemption, power, mercy, and faithfulness to His covenant with Abraham. Which of these truths most encourages you right now?
  - In verses 76–79, Zechariah describes John's role as the prophet of the Most High who would prepare the way for the Son of the Most High. Read John 3:30. What does John's statement, "He must increase, but I must decrease," teach us about our own role in pointing people to Jesus? What does it look like to prepare the way and then get out of the way?

3. Declares God (Luke 1:65-66; Acts 4:20; Galatians 1:24; Psalm 40:1-3)

- *The impact of Zechariah's renewed faith extended far beyond his home. Genuine faith doesn't keep God's goodness to itself. It naturally points others toward Him.*
  - Look at Luke 1:65–66. Notice how Luke emphasizes the widespread impact of what happened, describing how all the surrounding region heard and talked about it. Why do you think Zechariah's experience had such an impact? What can we learn from this part of Zechariah's story?
  - Read Acts 4:20 and Psalm 40:1–3. What do these passages teach us about the natural response of someone who has experienced God's saving work? What keeps Christians from speaking openly about Christ, and how can we overcome those barriers during this time of year?

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

PRAY TOGETHER (5-15 MINUTES)

- Ask God to strengthen your faith so that you trust His promises and obey His Word, even when it is difficult or goes against the expectations of others.

