

COMMUNITY GROUPS

Living out the gospel with
one another in our homes

Date: 11/29/22

Sermon: Nothing Is Impossible With God - Trusting His Promise

Text: Luke 1:5-56

Speaker: Ted Rastatter

Questions: Will Massaro

Sermon Summary and Text Overview

This Sunday, Pastor Ted preached from Luke 1. It was the first Sunday of Advent, and the first Sunday of our new sermon series, “Come Thou Long Expected Jesus”. In Luke 1:5-56, many events happen. First, the coming birth of John the Baptist, the forerunner to Jesus Christ, is foretold by an angel to a priest and John’s soon-to-be father, Zechariah. Next, another angel comes to a young girl named Mary and tells her that she will become pregnant supernaturally and bear the coming of a long awaited Messiah, the savior of the Jewish people. Finally, the two moms, who are cousins, and who are carrying John the Baptist and Jesus (Mary and Elizabeth) meet and discuss the glory of what is going to happen, which ends with a song of praise from Mary, the mother of Jesus. Pastor Ted focused on the promises that we should believe in this passage, and the entirety of Scripture. Specifically, Pastor Ted discussed the promise of the virgin birth, the promise of forgiveness from our sins, the promise of new life with him, the promise that God is good and working for our good, and the promise that he will return for an eternal reign in the new heavens and the new earth. If we cannot trust God’s promises, then our entire faith is pointless.

Questions

Consider singing as a group before you begin. Here is the first verse and chorus of O Come, O Come, Emmanuel.

O come, O come, Immanuel,
and ransom captive Israel
that mourns in lonely exile here
until the Son of God appear.

Chorus:

Rejoice! Rejoice! Immanuel
shall come to you, O Israel.

Read Luke 1:5-56

1. Compare and contrast the prophecies about John the Baptist and Jesus. What stands out to you? What questions do you have?
2. Why did Elizabeth supernaturally conceive with her husband, Zechariah, and Mary supernaturally conceived as a virgin, without her betrothed husband, Joseph? What significance does the virgin birth have to our faith?
3. Ted asked “Are you prepared to believe The Promises of God’s Word that God can do and has done and will do things that seem impossible?”
 - a. CAN DO: What trials are you going through right now that make it difficult for you to believe that God can do all things, and that we can do all things through Christ alone who strengthens us? Or what makes it difficult to believe that God is good, or working for your good, even though you believe he can do all things?
 - b. HAS DONE: What events from this passage, or others in Scripture do you find difficult to believe?
 - c. WILL DO: What promises of God do you have a hard time believing that he will do? (Ex. work all things together for good for those who love him, graciously give us all things, that he will return and we will rise to meet him in the air to reign with him forever)
4. Finally, are you prepared today to believe THE PROMISE, the Gospel, the Good News of God’s Word, “that Jesus Christ, the eternal Son of God, became the Son of Man through the Virgin Birth, died for the sins of man and rose again. And now he offers eternal life to us through another miraculous birth to be born again by faith to all who believe in him and the promise that he will return and reign as King eternal in a new heaven and new earth.”