

Sermon Series: ARE YOU READY FOR CHRISTMAS?

Sermon Title: "Preparing For the Christmas Miracle"

Scripture: Luke 1:5-25 (NIV)

INTRO: It's easy to get in the routine of living the daily grind of life and forget to keep our eyes peeled for the _____ (miraculous).

HOW TO PREPARE FOR THE CHRISTMAS MIRACLE:

1. Live life on _____ (call) for God (v.6)
 - even though they were not seeing anything miraculous, Zechariah & Elizabeth were still living faithful, godly lives
 - Israel was in the midst of 400 years of "silence"
 - when nothing special is happening, and nobody is watching...do you continue to faithfully serve the Lord?
2. Refuse to let ministry become _____ (mundane) (vv.8-9)
 - Zechariah was so focused on doing his duty that he fails to recognize the miracle
 - sometimes we go through the motions of life and forget how significant ministry moments really are
3. Keep praying with _____ (persistence) (v.13)
 - even though Zechariah and Elizabeth were beyond child-bearing years, they kept praying for a child
 - Luke 11:10 "Whoever keeps on asking...keeps on seeking...keeps on knocking...will be answered"
4. Believe that God's Word is _____ (enough) (vv.18-20)
 - Zechariah's crime was hearing the Word of God and then demanding more evidence
 - when we try to re-interpret God's Word, or re-explain for a "new" generation we are questioning the sufficiency of Scripture
 - GOD'S WORD IS ENOUGH!!!

CLOSE: What issues are you struggling with & you are finding it hard to _____ (believe) God's Word?