

1. Intro

- We start the book of Luke today, and our next 5 sermons will surround the real story of Christmas, the Biblical version!

2. Text: Luke 1:1-25

Luke 1:1-4

- Luke carefully investigated **eyewitness** reports surrounding the life of Jesus and wrote an accurate account of them so that Theophilus could know the **truth**.
 - Luke wrote this account around AD 60 and it covered events surrounding Jesus from roughly 4 BC to AD 30.

Luke 1:5-17

- Despite being relatively unknown, childless, and **disregarded** by the culture, Zechariah and Elizabeth remained **faithful** to the Lord; and the Lord supernaturally caused them to be pregnant with a son named John who would **prepare** people for the coming of the Lord Jesus.

Luke 1:18-25

- Zechariah did not **believe** God's message through Gabriel, so God caused him to be unable to **speak** until his son, John, was born.
 - It was not his questioning that was wrong, it was his unbelief in God's Word.
 - It's a big deal to God that people **believe** what He says.

3. Application

- Are we believing - with childlike faith - God's messages to us in His Word?
- Zechariah and Elizabeth lived many years with an unfulfilled hope and dream as well as with a stained image in their culture, yet they loved the Lord wholeheartedly, and they faithfully followed Him year after year. Are we handling our unfulfilled hopes and/or tarnished image the same way?