The Impossible is Possible

December 9, 2018 God Is Faithful

For the word of God will never fail. Luke 1:37 (NLT) For with God nothing shall be impossible. Luke 1:37 (KJV)

Introduction

With Christmas being upon us lets take a look at some of the miracles associated with the Christmas Story. Luke starts his version of the story with the miraculous birth of John the Baptist. What seemed to be impossible became possible. Our prayer this Christmas season is that you will continue to believe in the One who is able to do the unimaginable.

Something is missing!

Luke 1:5-7: 5 When Herod was king of Judea, there was a Jewish priest named Zechariah. He was a member of the priestly order of Abijah, and his wife, Elizabeth, was also from the priestly line of Aaron. 6 Zechariah and Elizabeth were righteous in God's eyes, careful to obey all of the Lord's commandments and regulations. 7 They had no children because Elizabeth was unable to conceive, and they were both very old.

Zechariah and Elizabeth had an otherwise perfect life. This is seen in:

- Their <u>heritage</u>
- Their <u>relationship</u> with God

But something was missing...at least according to them.

They did not have children.

You may feel like something is missing in your life today...

What can we learn from their lives as we look at our own?

1. When facing the impossible, continue to $\underline{\text{pray}}$ regardless of your circumstances or there outcome.

Luke 1:13: 13 But the angel said, "Don't be afraid, Zechariah! God has heard your prayer. Your wife, Elizabeth, will give you a son, and you are to name him John.

Have you ever prayed for something and the answer seem to elude you?

Zechariah and Elizabeth prayed but their prayer was not immediately answered

Do you feel like you are having to wait a lifetime for the Lord to answer your prayer?

But one thing they did in their season of waiting...they remained faithful.

2. When facing the impossible, remain faithful as you wait on the answer to come to pass.

Luke 1:8-9: 8 One day Zechariah was serving God in the Temple, for his order was on duty that week. 9 As was the custom of the priests, he was chosen by lot to enter the sanctuary of the Lord and burn incense.

Zechariah and Elizabeth did not give up on the Lord even though He wasn't, apparently, answering their prayer. Instead, they keep serving the Lord. They remained faithful!

- We are faithful when we do not get our way and we still follow His!
- We are faithful when we do not think He is working for us and we still work for Him!
- We are faithful when we do not see anything happening and worship Him like we do!

And the Lord was setting them up. Because they were faithful God provided a once in a lifetime opportunity for Zechariah. HIs faithfulness positioned him to go where no one else could go that day.

3. When facing the impossible, remember that others are watching you as a witness to your faith.

Luke 1:10: 10 While the incense was being burned, a great crowd stood outside, praying.

While Zechariah was inside burning incense (worshipping the Lord), there was a crowd outside waiting on the blessing from the priest.

Our faithfulness matters to us, to God, and to others!

God is the faithful One

Luke 1:11-17: 11 While Zechariah was in the sanctuary, an angel of the Lord appeared to him, standing to the right of the incense altar. 12 Zechariah was shaken and overwhelmed with fear when he saw him. 13 But the angel said, "Don't be afraid, Zechariah! God has heard your prayer. Your wife, Elizabeth, will give you a son, and you are to name him John. 14 You will have great joy and gladness, and many will rejoice at his birth, 15 for he will be great in the eyes of the Lord. He must never touch wine or other alcoholic drinks. He will be filled with the Holy Spirit, even before his birth. 16 And he will turn many Israelites to the Lord their God. 17 He will be a man with the spirit and power of Elijah. He will prepare the people for the coming of the Lord. He will turn the hearts of the fathers to their children,[c] and he will cause those who are rebellious to accept the wisdom of the godly."

When we're serving God as we should and are in our rightful position, God shows up with good news.

The gift that God was giving them was one of greatness:

- He will cause great joy
- He will have great power.
- He will do a great work for God.

Conclusion

The Lord did above and beyond what they asked.

You may be discouraged, disappointed, and even disillusioned about why your prayers are not answered and where God is. But may you be encouraged to stay faithful because He is faithful. The impossible is possible!