



Message Notes
Sunday, December 7th

Getting Through Tough Times

Luke 1

Isaiah 41:10 / NLT, “Don’t be afraid, for I am with you. Don’t be discouraged, for I am your God. I will strengthen you and help you. I will hold you up with my victorious right hand.”

1. _____ faithful to God even when its tough

Luke 1: 5-10 / CSB, “In the days of King Herod of Judea, there was a priest of Abijah’s division named Zechariah. His wife was from the daughters of Aaron, and her name was Elizabeth. **6** Both were righteous in God’s sight, living without blame according to all the commands and requirements of the Lord. **7** But they had no children because Elizabeth could not conceive, and both of them were well along in years. **8** When his division was on duty and he was serving as priest before God, **9** it happened that he was chosen by lot, according to the custom of the priesthood, to enter the sanctuary of the Lord and burn incense. **10** At the hour of incense the whole assembly of the people was praying outside.”

dikaiois: Observing divine law

Zechariah: Yahweh had remembered

Elizabeth: God is my oath

2. _____ hears our prayers and see our tears

Luke 1:11-13/ CSB, “An angel of the Lord appeared to him, standing to the right of the altar of incense. **12** When Zechariah saw him, he was terrified and overcome...”

...with fear. **13** But the angel said to him, “Do not be afraid, Zechariah, because your prayer has been heard. Your wife Elizabeth will bear you a son, and you will name him John.”

Psalms 56:8 / NLT, “You keep track of all my sorrows. You have collected all my tears in your bottle. You have recorded each one in your book.”

3. _____ God’s timing

Luke 1:57-64 / CSB, “Now the time had come for Elizabeth to give birth, and she had a son. **58** Then her neighbors and relatives heard that the Lord had shown her his great mercy, and they rejoiced with her. **59** When they came to circumcise the child on the eighth day, they were going to name him Zechariah, after his father. **60** But his mother responded, “No. He will be called John.” **61** Then they said to her, “None of your relatives has that name.” **62** So they motioned to his father to find out what he wanted him to be called. **63** He asked for a writing tablet and wrote, “His name is John.” And they were all amazed. **64** Immediately his mouth was opened and his tongue set free, and he began to speak, praising God.”

John: God is a gracious giver