

# HEAVEN

## CAME HERE



Small Group

### APPLICATION QUESTIONS

“Do not merely listen to the word, and so deceive yourselves. Do what it says.” James 1:22 NIV

#### SUMMARY

Pastor Billy Venezia kicked off the Christmas series, *Heaven Came Here*, as we looked at Luke 1. He introduced us to Zacharias and Elizabeth and taught through the unfolding plan of God as it relates to His divine timing, His allowance of circumstances, and the shaping of His people into His image.

#### APPLICATION

- 1. Read Luke 1:5-7. Pastor Billy noted that God generally allows a desperate or disappointing situation to arise before presenting His message or His deliverance.**
  - Take a few moments as a group and discuss why Christians today have a hard time being honest with God in their disappointment.
  - What barriers are keeping us from openly bringing these disappointments and frustrations to God?
  - What disappointing situation are you facing in your life presently?
- 2. Disappointment is normal. It is not sinful. But, it is not to be wasted! (Phil 4:11-13)**
  - Twice Paul repeated the phrase, “*I have learned.*” What do you believe God is trying to teach you in your current situation of disappointment?
  - How is He using this to conform you into His image? What is He asking you to do?
  - Have you accepted your disappointing situation? What would acceptance look like?
- 3. God hears our prayers, sees our needs, and carries our burdens. (Read Luke 1:8-13)**
  - Why do we tend to doubt God’s ability/love/understanding when our prayers aren’t answered?
  - What prayer request have you stopped praying for that needs to be prayed for again?
  - Share a time when God answered your prayers in the most unlikely way. How did that build your faith?
  - What steps do you need to take to improve the time and frequency of your prayer life?

#### PRAYER

Pray for your willing acceptance to be conformed in His image.

Pray for ‘that request’ you haven’t prayed for in a while...and keep praying for it.

