

# Hope Is Born Christmas 2022



## The Forerunner Of Hope Luke 1:5-25

Discussion Questions | Jeff Randleman | December 4, 2022

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*But the angel said to him, "Do not be afraid, Zechariah, for your prayer has been heard, and your wife Elizabeth will bear you a son, and you shall call his name John... And he will turn many of the children of Israel to the Lord their God, and he will go before him in the spirit and power of Elijah, to turn the hearts of the fathers to the children, and the disobedient to the wisdom of the just, to make ready for the Lord a people prepared."*

– Luke 1:13, 16-17 (ESV)

The following questions can be used for Small Group discussions or for personal reflection:

1. Are you ready for Christmas? Or are you prepared for Christmas? What is the difference between the two?
2. Zechariah and Elizabeth faced some pretty difficult circumstances, in the fact that they had no children, couldn't have any, and were beyond the age of even the possibility. In the face of such a situation, they could either choose to be bitter or choose to remain faithful. Which did they choose? What impact does that have on your life?
3. What circumstances are you facing (or have faced in the past) that seem too difficult to bear? Which way are you leaning: towards bitterness, or towards faithfulness?
4. What can you do to remain faithful during circumstances that may be less than ideal? Is there a friend you can lean on during such a time to help strengthen you?
5. How can you see God remaining faithful in the midst of your difficult circumstances? What might he be doing in such a difficult time of your life?
6. Define "hope." How does Jesus fulfill this definition?
7. For further study, read the following Scriptures (used in today's message): Luke 1:5-25; 2 Chronicles 16:9; 1 Peter 4:19; 2 Corinthians 4:7-10, 12:9-10.

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**God is not bound by our \_\_\_\_\_.**

But he can, and does, use them to make people ready to receive Him.

### **How to prepare our hearts for Christmas:**

Circumstances do not determine our \_\_\_\_\_.

Circumstances are not a sign of God's \_\_\_\_\_.

Remember that God remains \_\_\_\_\_.