



LUKE

LUKE 1

Read either before your small group or all together at the start.

1. Israel spent 400 years in difficult circumstances waiting for God to keep his promise. He was silent throughout all of that time perhaps leaving them wondering if he'd forgotten his promise to them altogether. In fact, they had waited so long that even God's most faithful servants were uncertain when God finally spoke in Luke 1. Is there any area where you've been waiting a long time and it feels like God is silent?
2. More than once in Luke 1 we are reminded that our faith rests on the foundation of what God has done in the past. God asks us to remember what he's done and to trust his character. Zechariah, Elizabeth and Mary all took time to remember God's faithfulness in keeping his promises to Israel. Where has God been faithful in your life? When has he kept a promise to you? When have you seen him show up in your life?
3. Mary and Elizabeth were both unlikely people to be used by God in such a significant way. Yet both women showed great courage and faith to trust God's plan and allow him to use them. Are there any areas where you feel too weak or unlikely for God to use you? What might God be calling you to do in this season that will require great courage and faith in his plan?
4. Alex helped us to understand that naming John was a powerful moment. It was the moment when the transforming power of the gospel first became apparent as Zechariah describes it in v. 76-77. What is an area of your life that has been transformed by the power of Jesus? What is an areas where you would like Jesus to continue to grow you?
5. Alex said his friend Dick Lucas told him, "Reminding is the ministry." His emphasis was that so much of following Jesus is about remembering (and reminding each other) what Jesus has said. How can you put this into practice as individuals and as a group this week?
6. Both Mary and Zechariah sang a song to declare their praise for what God was doing. Perhaps close by listening to a worship song together and then praying for one another.