

West Towne Circles Discussion Guide

Songs of Hope



Week Two: Zechariah's Song

Overview

Let's talk about hope! The season of Advent thrusts us into a season of expectation, of longing, and ultimately – a season of hope. In this series, we'll look at three "songs" of people who found themselves in the middle of the Christmas story. This week, we looked at the song of Zechariah, the husband of Elizabeth and the father of John the Baptist. We were challenged to trust in God's plan, and to play our part well – no matter the circumstances or difficulties that we might face. That is a beautiful reminder in the midst of a chaotic year.

Reading and Discussion

1. Though this has been a challenging year, God has not been caught off guard by its difficulties. As you begin, share one way in which you've grown in your faith in 2020.
2. Ron did a great job of showing us the historical context that the stories of scripture take place within. How does that historical knowledge strengthen your faith? How does it make you think differently about your faith?

3. **Read Romans 8:28.** We were reminded that God is still on “Plan A.” He’s not surprised when things go awry, he’s not things get difficult. He’s still good, and his plan is still unfolding. Has there been a time in your life in which you doubted God’s plan for you? Are you in a moment like that now? Share, if you feel comfortable.

4. **Read Luke 1:67-79.** What do you take from Zechariah’s prayer? How does it strengthen your confidence in God, in his word, and in his plan?

5. Ron challenged us to **play our part well** in the midst of God’s plan, no matter the circumstances. As you close this session, pray for God to guide you to do just that, and to show you ways in which you can live out what God has called you to.