

THE FACTS OF LIFE

We Do Struggle!

(Pastor Calvin Holdren)

– Luke 1 –

How can we as believers balance our problems and struggles?

I. WHAT ARE TWO MAIN STRUGGLES IN LIFE?

1. _____ something we don't _____
2. _____ something we don't _____

II. A PRINCIPLE FOR US TO GRASP

*Our _____ cannot be separated from _____
God for every detail He has for our lives.*

How can we avoid the tragedies of life that flow from a warped understanding of God?

*By gaining a _____ of God and His _____
_____ for our lives. Our _____ or
the _____ of God we worship determines what kind
of people we are and _____ we approve.*

III. TRUSTING HIS TENDER MERCIES IN OUR STRUGGLE MEANS ACCEPTING HIS:

1. _____ vs. 68 (refer to vs. 17)
2. _____ vss. 69-75
3. _____ vss. 66-77
4. _____ vss. 78-79

IV. A BELIEVER'S RESPONSE AND REACTION TO OUR STRUGGLES

"...my spirit rejoices in God my Savior," (Luke 1:47)

Application Questions. . .

1. What especially spoke to you in this passage?
2. What challenges did you face that has stopped you from achieving your intended goals for the year?
3. Why do you think God dealt with Zachariah's unbelief the way He did?
4. Describe the differences between Mary's fears and Zechariah's doubts. Why was Mary treated with compassion?
5. What lessons have you learned (*are learning*) while trusting God with your inward and outward struggles?
6. "The kind of God we worship determines what kind of people we are and what behavior we approve." (Jerry Cook) How is this true?
7. How can we encourage believers to trust God's hand while struggling with their perplexing circumstances?
8. What new concepts did you learn today from Luke 1?