

## Hope for the Barren

Series: *Christmas for the Broken*

– Luke 1:5-25 –

### 1. A Barren Couple

A. *An Angelic Appearance and Announcement*

B. *A Request and a Rebuke*

### 2. Hope for Today

A. God's [Faithfulness is Ever-Present](#)

B. God's [Plan is sometimes Painful](#)

C. God's [Timing is always Perfect](#)

#### Application Questions. . .

1. What part of the text or message had the greatest impact on you? Where were you most encouraged, intrigued, or challenged?
2. Zechariah & Elizabeth were upright and kept God's commandments and yet were barren. What thoughts and feelings might they have been experiencing?
3. Luke is careful not to dress up the story by making Zechariah a great hero of faith. We have an ordinary husband and wife receiving an extraordinary message and responding in mixed ways. What does this tell us about how God works?
4. What are some of your theological assumptions about God and people as it relates to pain and suffering?
5. Zechariah was disciplined for not believing the Lord. Why is unbelief so offensive to God?
6. Have you ever experienced doubt that began robbing you of joy? What do you do when this happens?
7. When have you been obedient to God and still felt "forgotten?" What does this story tell you?

