

Sermon Discussion Guide for small groups, families, and individuals

"The Gospel for Everyone"

Luke 1:1-25

September 13-14, 2014

For Starters

1. Looking back at your notes from this week's teaching, was there anything that particularly caught your attention, challenged you or raised questions?
2. What doubts do people have of Christianity? Where have you or do you struggle with doubts, what has helped?

Digging In

1. Luke is written to a man named Theophilus. Why did he write this book? (vs 1-4)
2. Luke was a doctor. What impact might this have on a "careful investigation" and an "orderly account" (vs 3-4)? How would this help Theophilus?
3. Have you ever been taught something that you later doubted? How does careful investigation and being certain help reinforce truth?
4. Verses 5-10 introduce us to Zechariah and Elizabeth. What kind of people were they?
5. What happens in verses 11-12? Does this fit your idea of a holy moment? Why do you think people who meet a physical representation of God are often frightened?
6. How are the two ways God answers Zechariah's question in v 18? How does the Angel's answer in verses 19-20 help us understand Zechariah's attitude?
7. Why is Zechariah unable to speak? Why would God take away his ability to communicate?
8. What are the two ways God answers Zechariah's question in
9. What is the response to Zechariah's time in the temple? (vs 21-25) What is Elizabeth's response?
10. Theophilus was a good man. He wondered if the gospel was true. How does the story of Zechariah answer his question?
11. Is it possible to worship and doubt at the same time? How does Matthew 28:17 connect with Luke 1?

Bringing It Home

1. What aren't you sure about at this time in your faith journey? Why aren't you sure? What's changed?
2. Notice where Luke starts and where we start by telling a story about a God who answers even long forgotten prayers and keeps his Word even when we don't believe it. Where has God answered your prayers, where (in the Bible) has God kept his Word to you?
3. Who do you know who is struggling with doubts right now? How can you help how could you make it worse?

Digging Deeper

Read the next few chapters of Luke this week. (Read the whole book if you have time). Identify marginalized individuals - how do they respond to Jesus?

Belonging to a small group is a great way to grow spiritually. If you would like to join a group or get more information, contact Melanie at myeazel@doorcreekchurch.org.