



LUKE

1 : 1-25

*“The Baptist Church of Franklin exists to make **more** and **better** followers of Jesus Christ.”* — BCF Membership Binder

OBSERVE

Read Luke 1:1-4

- Who wrote this gospel? How do we know? What was his purpose in writing? To whom was he writing?

Read Luke 1:5-10

- Who are Zechariah and Elizabeth? What “long winter” did they face?
- What role was the temple supposed to play in Israel? Was it functioning this way at this point in time?

Read Luke 1:11-25

- According to the angel, what role will John play in the life of his mom and dad? In the life of God’s people?
- What does Zechariah say to this? How does the angel respond?

REFLECT and OBEY

1. Describe a time you had to wait for something. What were you waiting for? How important was this to you? What kept you from giving up?
2. We are told that Zechariah and Elizabeth were “upright in the sight of God, observing all the Lord's commandments and regulations blamelessly,” and yet they suffered “disgrace among the people” because of infertility. What do you see as the connection between obedience and blessing? How might Christians today suffer “disgrace among the people” for things that are beyond their control?
3. Zechariah seems shocked to meet a divine presence in the temple, and is then doubtful of the angel's news. How does this reflect upon your own expectation of God?
4. Zechariah is given the “gift of silence.” How might this time of silence have worked for good in his life? What role does silence play in your life?