

“Prepare Him Room”

Sunday, December 5, 2021, 10:30 a.m.

Whitneyville Bible Church, Alto, MI

Pastor Jonathan DeCou

Luke 1:5-25, 57-80

BIG IDEA: I must prepare myself and others for Christ.

“And [John] will go before [Jesus] in the spirit and power of Elijah, to make ready for the Lord a prepared people.”

Luke 1:17 (CSB)

- ☞ **We are prepared for Christ through FAITH. (v5-7)**
- ☞ **We are prepared for Christ through REVERENCE. (v8-17)**
- ☞ **We are prepared for Christ through DISCIPLINE. (18-22)**
- ☞ **We are prepared for Christ through OBEDIENCE. (v23-25)**
- ☞ **We are prepared for Christ through PERSEVERANCE. (v57-66)**
- ☞ **We are prepared for Christ through WORSHIP. (v67-80)**

BIG IDEA: I must prepare myself and others for Christ.

READ: Luke 1:5-25, 57-80

THINK: Consider this account from Zechariah’s life, then ask yourself these questions: *What is your nickname and how did you get it? What stands out to you*

about Zechariah and Elizabeth (v5-7)? In light of the cultural attitudes toward barren women and childless couples, what feelings do you suppose this couple had at this point in their life together? What is the significance of the priestly task for which Zechariah was chosen (1 Chronicles 23:13)? Since many priests never had this opportunity, what might he be feeling as he prepares for it? How about when the angel appears? How would the birth of this son affect Zechariah and Elizabeth (v14)? How would you describe John’s mission in your own words? Why does Zechariah express doubt? In the meantime while Zechariah and Gabriel are in conversation, how were the Temple worshippers feeling (v21)? What did they think when Zechariah emerged from the Temple, mute? How did John’s birth fulfill the words of Gabriel in v13-17? How did John’s birth (& life) fulfill OT prophecy? How did Zechariah and Elizabeth’s friends and neighbors respond to the circumstances surrounding John’s birth? If you were Zechariah’s neighbor, what would you be thinking about his new son, his name and what his parent’s said about him? What impacts you most as you read Zechariah’s song of praise (v67-79)? Why?

DO: How do you need to prepare yourself to receive the work of Christ today, either as an unbeliever or believer? What do you need to do to prepare for the return of Jesus Christ, our Soon and Coming King? What does it mean to you that “the Lord’s hand” is with someone? Success? Courage? Wealth? Endurance? Holiness? How was “the Lord’s hand” seen in John’s life? What does that mean to you today?