



## SMALL GROUP STUDY

1. Christmas is about hope. How have you experienced hope at Christmastime or anytime? What role did / does God play in that hope?

2. Read **Luke 1:5-25**.

Where do you see in these verses, examples that:

1. We serve a God who makes the IMPOSSIBLE, POSSIBLE
2. We serve a God who BREATHES life into BARREN places
3. We serve a God who keeps His PROMISES

3. What do “barren” seasons in life refer to? What do they look like? When have you experienced barren times in life?

4. Take time to prayerfully read and discuss each point of walking through a barren season:

a. PRAY to the Lord

1 Chronicles 16:11 | Job 22:27a | Proverbs 15:8b | Psalm 4:1 | Psalm 145:8

*How have I spoken to and listened to God about my barrenness?*

b. PERSEVERE in living God’s Word

Genesis 15:6 | Deuteronomy 11:1 | Proverbs 3:5-7 | Psalm 33:4

*How have I lived God’s Word faithfully in my barrenness?*

c. Trust God’s PROMISES

a. God is GOOD - Psalm 86:5

b. God is FAITHFUL - Joshua 1:9

c. God BLESSES - Psalm 37:4

d. God is in CONTROL - Jeremiah 29:11

*What promises do I need to trust in my season of barrenness?*



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### ACCESS TODAY’S MESSAGE

Our website is designed to be a helpful tool for all things Northampton. At [www.NBchurchCF.org](http://www.NBchurchCF.org) you’ll find: our church calendar, key events, email and text alert sign-ups as well as access to this week’s message and past messages - all from your computer, tablet or smartphone!

### INFORMATION FOR OUR GUESTS

#### Next Step Spiritual Growth Opportunities

A great next step from the Worship Service on Sunday mornings is to connect with Spiritual Growth Opportunities: classes at 9:30am on Sundays as well as small groups and other Bible Studies at various times during the week.

#### Children’s & Youth Ministry

We have a safe place for your children and teens! There are several environments throughout the week for preschoolers, children, middle & high school students to take part in, connect with friends and grow in their relationship with Jesus.

Complete info can be found at: [www.NBchurchCF.org](http://www.NBchurchCF.org)

### FOR FURTHER STUDY

Whether you’re in a small group now or not, use this study guide to help you as you listen to the message and during the week as you dig deeper into God’s Word through the “Small Group Study” section. All of this is designed to help you along the path of discipleship to **Believe > Belong > Become** like Jesus!



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# MESSAGE NOTES

FIRST CHRISTMAS : Through the eyes of Zechariah & Elizabeth

Pastor Joe Pryor

## I. Zechariah & Elizabeth

## II. Looking at Christmas through the eyes of Zechariah & Elizabeth we see...

1. We serve a God who makes the \_\_\_\_\_, \_\_\_\_\_
2. We serve a God who \_\_\_\_\_ life into \_\_\_\_\_ places
3. We serve a God who keeps His \_\_\_\_\_

## III. Finding Hope in the Barren Seasons of Life

1. \_\_\_\_\_ to the Lord

*1 Chronicles 16:11 | Job 22:27a | Proverbs 15:8b | Psalm 4:1 | Psalm 145:8*

**1 Chronicles 16:11** - *"Seek the LORD and his strength; seek his presence continually!"*

*How have I spoken to and listened to God about my barrenness?*

2. \_\_\_\_\_ in living God's Word

*Genesis 15:6 | Deuteronomy 11:1 | Proverbs 3:5-7 | Psalm 33:4*

**Deuteronomy 11:1** - *"You shall therefore love the LORD your God and keep his charge, his statutes, his rules, and his commandments always."*

*How have I lived God's Word faithfully in my barrenness?*

3. Trust God's \_\_\_\_\_

### Some Promises Zechariah and Elizabeth May Have Trusted In:

- a. God is **GOOD**

**Psalm 86:5** - *"For you, O Lord, are good and forgiving, abounding in steadfast love to all who call upon you."*

- b. God is **FAITHFUL**

**Joshua 1:9** - *"...the LORD your God is with you wherever you go."*

- c. God **BLESSES**

**Psalm 37:4** - *"Delight yourself in the LORD, and he will give you the desires of your heart."*

- d. God is in **CONTROL**

**Jeremiah 29:11** - *"For I know the plans I have for you, declares the LORD, plans for welfare and not for evil, to give you a future and a hope."*

*What promises do I need to trust in my season of barrenness?*