

FIRST SUNDAY OF ADVENT

“Elizabeth and Zechariah”

‘Fear & Faith’

11/29/09

Luke 1:5-25; 57-66

1. ZECHARIAH’S RESPONSE TO GOD’S *PROMISE*: (Luke 1:8-14)

A. The *Setting*

“While Zechariah was in the sanctuary, an angel of the Lord appeared to him, standing to the right of the incense altar.”

“Zechariah was shaken and overwhelmed with fear when he saw him.”

B. The *Seeking*.

“But the angel said, ‘Don’t be afraid, Zechariah! God has heard your prayer.’”

C. The *Situation*.

“Your wife, Elizabeth, will give you a son, and you are to name him John. You will have great joy and gladness.”

D. The *Servant*

E. The *Sadness*

“How can I be sure this will happen? I’m an old man now, and my wife is also well along in years.”

“Then the angel said, ‘I am Gabriel! I stand in the very presence of God. It was he who sent me to bring you this good news!’”

“But now, since you didn’t believe what I said, you will be silent and unable to speak until the child is born. For my words will certainly be fulfilled at the proper time.”

2. ELIZABETH’S RESPONSE TO GOD’S *PLAN*. (Luke 1:23-25)

A. The *Faith*

“How kind the Lord is!” she exclaimed.

B. The *Favor*

“He has taken away my disgrace of having no children.”

C. The *Future*: (Luke 1:57-66)

“When it was time for Elizabeth to have her baby, she gave birth to a son.”

“Instantly Zechariah could speak again, and he began praising God.”

“John grew up and became strong in spirit. And he lived in the wilderness until he began his public ministry to Israel.” (v. 80)