



## **JUST WAIT**

**Luke 1:5-25**

### **OPEN**

Have someone with a watch keep time for 30 seconds. When they say go, list all the places/circumstances you hate to wait. Shout them out loud and prepare to laugh as you discover your impatience.

What has been the hardest wait you have had to endure?

### **DISCUSS**

Read Luke 1:5-25.

- Who was Zechariah and why is he important to the Christmas story?
- What was the burden of Zechariah and Elizabeth (v. 7)? Think of reasons why this would have been painful—especially in the ancient Jewish world. How did they respond in life to what seemed like a seemingly hopeless situation (v. 6)?
- What was Zechariah's interruption? Do you blame him questioning God?

When we need to wait it can feel like time in the wilderness kicking up many emotions and anxieties. Can you think of a time when you had to simply wait for God to do something in your life? Share what you experienced during this wilderness of waiting.

When we wait, there are several ways to look to and embrace God's grace:

- Sometimes God keeps us waiting because He is preparing a larger and better gift than we even have the imagination to conceive of right now. (See Luke 1:7, 11-17)



- Some of the good gifts God is preparing for us won't be found this side of life's door. This is sometimes hard to accept, but all creation and life is moving to glorious redemption. This bigger perspective can bridge the gap of hope when challenged by waiting.
- Sometimes, God leaves us waiting so that we'll have time to take His truth in.

*What is your reaction to these statements? Would you include other ways to engage waiting?*

The sermon asked the question below. How would answer someone who may ask you this question after considering the sermon and study discussion?

*Where do YOU find the strength to keep on waiting when what you hope for seems so long in coming, or may never, in fact, come at all?*

## **YOUR NEXT STEP...**

- Read and reflect on the Bible passages contained in this study.
- Are you in a season of waiting? How will you seek and trust God?

◆◆◆ **MERRY CHRISTMAS** ◆◆◆