

**Engage Bible Study: Luke 1:5-56**  
**September 19-21, 2011**



- A. *Announcing the One who Goes Before (1:5-25)***
- B. *The Announcement of Jesus' Birth (1:26-38)***
- C. *Mary's Visit to Elizabeth (1:39-56)***

**Questions for Small Group Conversation**

*If the people around the table don't know one another please begin with introductions.*

**Opening Prayer:** *God, thank you for this time together to open your word and grow closer to you and to one another. We invite your Holy Spirit into our conversation to open our eyes, hearts and minds to whatever you would have us learn. In the strong name of Jesus we pray. Amen.*

**Open Up** (pick one or both to get your conversation started)

- Is there something you long for and you've prayed about it but haven't yet received it? How do you hold on to hope?
- If you were to write a song of praise today what would the topic be? Why?

**Dig In**

- What does today's reading say about the character of God?
- How would you explain the difference between Zechariah and Mary's response to Gabriel's promise?
- What do you learn in this passage about the roles of John and Jesus in God's plan? How are they similar? How are they different?
- Why do you think God chose silence as a corrective measure in Zechariah's life?
- What doubts do you struggle with when it comes to your faith?

**Move Out**

- Watch for God to "show up" in the midst of your daily life, just as he did in Zechariah and Mary's life. Keep your eyes, ears and heart open this week.
- Since one of the core themes of Luke's Gospel is God's preference for the poor and God's desire to restore justice to the world, begin now to consider how God might be calling you to do justice, love kindness and walk humbly with God (Micah 6:8).
- Surrender your doubts to God and ask the Holy Spirit to fan the flames of your faith. Since faith comes by hearing read next week's reading assignment (see below) every day this week and reflect deeply on what it means, and what it means for you.

**Next Week: *Luke 1:57-2:20: Two Births and a Heavenly Chorus***