



LIFE GROUPS DISCUSSION GUIDE

HORN OF SALVATION Luke 1:57–80

December 6, 2020

CONNECT

1. When did God answer a prayer that you have been asking for years? How did it feel to wait so long before receiving your answer?

CELEBRATE

2. Zechariah and Elizabeth eagerly followed God's commands blamelessly. Yet she was barren. We all have barren places in our lives, even those who live righteously. Where is your barren place? Take time to pray about it, knowing that God hears our prayers and is able to answer.
3. God transformed Elizabeth from a place of scorn to a position of high honor. She conceived an impossible child in her old age and then was given the privilege of naming her son in accordance with the angel's promise (Luke 1:60). What does this say about who God is and how He relates to His children?
4. After Zechariah wrote John's name, God immediately loosens his tongue. Why did God open Zechariah's mouth at this point? What happened when God did?
5. Read aloud Zechariah's song in Luke 1:68–79. As it is read, focus on everything it declares about God. How do these words make you feel about God? Which aspects of God's character is Zechariah eager to proclaim?
6. Read Luke 1:20 and 1:80. Did Zechariah's doubt prevent God's words from coming to pass? Whose life did Zechariah's doubt affect?
7. Gabriel appears twice in Daniel (8:16 and 9:21), leaving Daniel silenced at one point (10:15). Gabriel also appears to Mary to deliver her the good news (Luke 1:26). What differences do you notice in each of these three recipients? Why are Daniel and Zechariah silenced, but not Mary?
8. Read Luke 1:41. Is Elizabeth too old for God to use her? Is her baby too young for God to use him? What then does this say about you?

CONTRIBUTE

9. In Luke 1:24–25, Elizabeth rejoices that God has taken away her reproach from those who shamed her for being barren. Take a moment to pause and pray, asking God to show you anyone you have scorned. Write down the names of anyone God brings to mind, then go and apologize to them this week. It may feel uncomfortable, but it can be incredibly powerful.
10. Zechariah and Elizabeth prayed for decades, holding on to nothing but the promises and character of God in the midst of their pain. In the midst of your pain, which promises of God are you clinging to? Which aspects of God's character give you hope? If you do not have an answer, work together as a group to find answers in Scripture and encourage each other with them (consider Mary's and Zechariah's songs in Luke 1).