

December 4th

Zacharias stands in the temple, unsure what to do. A magnificent heavenly being stands before him, assuring him he is safe. And as Zacharias fights to let go of his fear, the angel speaks something incredible.

Luke 1:13b – “... and your wife Elizabeth will bear you a _____, and you shall call his name _____”

You have waited. You have prayed. You have stayed faithful despite not hearing God say “yes” about this thing. And now your “yes” is here. God is going to give you the longing of your heart. A child. A son!

God is going to do the impossible. Because He is bigger than your natural limitations.

Luke 1:18b – “... For I am an _____ man, and my wife is _____ in years”

He knows you are physically unable to make this happen. He knows you have tried and always come up empty. But now is God’s time to start the cycle of impossible miracles on the earth. And it is going to start with YOU. An old man. And with your wife. An old woman. Just like your forefather Abraham, who was 100 when his 90 year old wife Sarah birthed the promised son Isaac (**Genesis 17:17, 21:5**).

And just as He spoke to Abraham – “Is anything too _____ for the LORD?” (**Genesis 18:14a**) – now He is speaking to you. That is why the angel is here speaking to you. But not just any angel.

Luke 1:19a – “... I am _____, who stands in the presence of God ...”

Gabriel, God’s special messenger. Which prophet was he most involved with? (**Daniel 8:15-16; 9:21**)

How does he help this prophet?

And now he has been sent to YOU, God’s chosen man. To meet you at His altar and “to speak to you and bring you these _____ tidings” (**Luke 1:19b**). To remind you God is faithful and loves to lavish us with things that bring us “joy and _____” (**Luke 1:14a**).

And this son, this miracle of your faith, will be the joy of your heart. He will be your reminder forever of God’s goodness and faithfulness.

Going Deeper:

1. *When was a time when God surprised you with a big announcement or blessing? What happened?*

2. *What does Ecclesiastes 5:18-20 tell us about God and blessings?*

3. *What does Psalm 37:3-5 tell us about God and our desires?*

4. *How do you think Zacharias felt at hearing he would have a son? Does he react any differently than Abraham in Genesis 17:17?*

5. *What is something impossible you are praying and hoping God will do for you?*

6. *Zacharias looked at his age and stage of life to disqualify himself. Why were these things the exact things God used for His purposes?*
