

Current

One Heck of a Baby Announcement

Luke 1:68-79 | Session 7.50

Before the Session

Facilitator: In advance of the session

- Review today's scripture text and the session activities to help better facilitate the discussion.
- Have the Bible Background Video ready to view.
- Have any selected video or music clips ready to show.
- Encourage your group to listen to the Faithelement podcast ahead of the next session (Share the link via email or social media).

Context

Share the [images](#) of the landmarks lit in red, white, and blue and ask questions like:

- Much of the Advent season is built around candles. In what ways does the image of a candle lit in darkness offer hope, peace, or comfort in tragic situations?
- How do you feel when you see these images?
- What claims do you think are being made when light is used in this way?
- In what ways do words like “wonder” and “hope” affect you in this season, particularly when headlines in the news seem to hold so much darkness?
- How do you feel about such terms when gathered with other believers and why?

Content

Read [Luke 1:68-79](#), then watch the Bible Background Video.

Ask questions like these:

- In what ways does this passage express emotions like “wonder” and “hope” to you?
- What is the “way of peace” mentioned in verse 79?
- In what ways is “the way of peace” a specific act or point in time, and in what ways might it be something larger?
- How is this story shaped by the element of surprise?
- What roles do surprise or expectation play in our approach to this season, and in what ways does this reflect our relationship with God during the rest of the year?

Closure

Continue by reminding everyone that the Bible Background Video said that “God is always breaking into our dark nights with the light of Christ.” Large scale shows of light make large statements, but sometimes, light is shown in smaller ways. Share the story of the [older man helping the young man with his tie](#) and ask questions like:

- What do you think the young man on the train was feeling he tried to fix his tie?
- If you were on this train, what would part of this scene would most stand out to you and why?
- What did the older man offer the younger man through his actions?
- What kind of power is expressed in small acts of kindness?
- In what small ways could you interact with people to offer an “in-breaking” of peace?

Pray: Pray together to end the session, using the words from [Luke 1:78-79](#) as a prayer: *“May the tender mercy of our God, may the dawn from on high break upon us, to give light to those who sit in darkness and in the shadow of death, to guide our feet into the way of peace.”*

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