

Luke 1:5-25 (ESV)

⁵In the days of Herod, king of Judea, there was a priest named Zechariah, of the division of Abijah. And he had a wife from the daughters of Aaron, and her name was Elizabeth. ⁶And they were both righteous before God, walking blamelessly in all the commandments and statutes of the Lord. ⁷But they had no child, because Elizabeth was barren, and both were advanced in years.

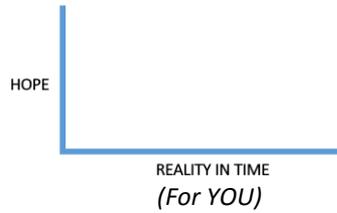
⁸Now while he was serving as priest before God when his division was on duty, ⁹according to the custom of the priesthood, he was chosen by lot to enter the temple of the Lord and burn incense. ¹⁰And the whole multitude of the people were praying outside at the hour of incense. ¹¹And there appeared to him an angel of the Lord standing on the right side of the altar of incense. ¹²And Zechariah was troubled when he saw him, and fear fell upon him. ¹³But the angel said to him, "Do not be afraid, Zechariah, for your prayer has been heard, and your wife Elizabeth will bear you a son, and you shall call his name John. ¹⁴And you will have joy and gladness, and many will rejoice at his birth, ¹⁵for he will be great before the Lord. And he must not drink wine or strong drink, and he will be filled with the Holy Spirit, even from his mother's womb. ¹⁶And he will turn many of the children of Israel to the Lord their God, ¹⁷and he will go before him in the spirit and power of Elijah, to turn the hearts of the fathers to the children, and the disobedient to the wisdom of the just, to make ready for the Lord a people prepared."

¹⁸And Zechariah said to the angel, "How shall I know this? For I am an old man, and my wife is advanced in years." ¹⁹And the angel answered him, "I am Gabriel. I stand in the presence of God, and I was sent to speak to you and to bring you this good news. ²⁰And behold, you will be silent and unable to speak until the day that these things take place, because you did not believe my words, which will be fulfilled in their time." ²¹And the people were waiting for Zechariah, and they were wondering at his delay in the temple. ²²And when he came out, he was unable to speak to them, and they realized that he had seen a vision in the temple. And he kept making signs to them and remained mute. ²³And when his time of service was ended, he went to his home.

²⁴After these days his wife Elizabeth conceived, and for five months she kept herself hidden, saying, ²⁵"Thus the Lord has done for me in the days when he looked on me, to take away my reproach among people."

HOW IS SELF-SUFFICIENCY A SIN?

- cannot _____ beyond the _____



- cannot _____ beyond the _____

- cannot _____ beyond own _____

2 Corinthians 3:4-5 (ESV)

⁴ Such is the confidence that we have through Christ toward God. ⁵ Not that we are sufficient in ourselves to claim anything as coming from us, but our sufficiency is from God.

Big Idea

God's _____ moves us out of the end of our _____, and into His all-sufficient _____.

Reflection and Application

- Do you prefer the safety of doubt rather than the risk of disappointment?
- How big is your "God room"? Why is that? How do you sense God asking you to increase it?

How to Uncover All Sins: (REVIEW)

1. Ask God to reveal the true condition of your heart. (Psalm 139:23-24)
2. Confess to God what sins you are hiding, and why. (Psalm 32:5, 9)
3. Commit to corresponding characteristics or principles of Christ or a fruit of the Holy Spirit that does battle with the sins you are hiding. (cf. Romans 13:14; Galatians 5:22-23)
4. Commit to being "naked" before others in a way that invites accountability or opportunity to share about the Gospel. (cf., James 5:16)