

“Prepare the Way: He Is Near”

Luke 1:1-25

Sermon Notes ♦ November 30, 2014

Introduction:

The _____ to Wait (vv. 5-7)

Zechariah and Elizabeth's story is a study in _____,
an example of practiced _____. And as such, it is a
snapshot of the entire story of God's people.

The creation waits in eager expectation for the sons of God to be revealed.²⁰ For the creation was subjected to frustration, not by its own choice, but by the will of the one who subjected it, in hope²¹ that the creation itself will be liberated from its bondage to decay and brought into the glorious freedom of the children of God.²² We know that the whole creation has been groaning as in the pains of childbirth right up to the present time. - Romans 8:19-22

But for you who revere my name, the sun of righteousness will rise with healing in its wings. ... See, I send you the prophet Elijah before that great and dreadful day of the Lord comes. - Malachi 4:2, 5

The _____ to Prayer (v. 13a)

The _____ of Life (vv. 13b-17)

"I have come that they may have life, and have it to the full." - John 10:10

"If a man remains in me and I in him, he will bear much fruit...." - John 15:5

"... with God all things are possible." - Matthew 19:26

The _____ of Christmas (v. 18)

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Questions for Reflection

- *Do you struggle with waiting?*
- *How can you practice this difficult discipline during the Advent season?*
- *How do you see the story of Israel aligning with your own life story?*
- *What prayers seem unheard by God?*
- *In what ways do you need God to do the impossible in your life?*