



SERMON DISCUSSION QUESTIONS

Week of March 27 & 28, 2021

Please use these questions to stay connected as a church to meditate on the same sermon preached from God's Word this week. May this be a fruitful time for the building up of our church and for the spread of the gospel.

Sermon Text

Luke 1:18-25

18 And Zechariah said to the angel, "How shall I know this? For I am an old man, and my wife is advanced in years." 19 And 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. 20 And 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." 21 And the people were waiting for Zechariah, and they were wondering at his delay in the temple. 22 And 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. 23 And when his time of service was ended, he went to his home. 24 After 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."

If you were not able to listen to this week's sermon, then please refer to this link to listen prior to answering these questions, <http://hawaiiKaichurch.org/sermononline>

Summary

An aged childless Zechariah is serving in the temple when an angel appears and tells Zechariah that he will have a son who will be great before the Lord and will be a herald for the coming Messiah. With this angelic announcement comes the promise of a long awaited son but more importantly, the fulfillment of thousands of years of prophecy regarding the Christ. Tragically, Zechariah doesn't believe

the angel and is disciplined by being made mute and deaf. The lessons we learn from Zechariah's unbelief apply to all believers today.

Discussion Questions

1. Zechariah was a righteous and devout man but in our passage, he doubted God because he had an earthly focus on his problems, rather than a hopeful trust in his God. Why do you think even strong believers will sometimes stumble in this way? How does someone who stumbles like this, get back on their feet again?
2. Is it always wrong to question God and His Word? Is it always wrong to doubt God and His Word? Is there a difference between questioning and doubting? Explain.
3. Have you ever experienced (even temporarily) being "deaf" and "mute" towards the things of God because of your unbelief?
4. In spite of Zechariah's doubt and unbelief, God was true to His Word and fulfilled His promises to Zechariah. How does this story of Zechariah encourage you in your faith?