

GENERAL QUESTIONS:

1. What new concept did you learn from this week's text? What did you learn about God?
2. Is there anything in the text that you don't understand?
3. How does this text challenge you to change? Is there anything standing in your way of making that change?

Specific Questions:            Luke 1:5-23

1. In the 400 years between Israel's restoration (after the Babylonian Captivity) and the birth of Jesus, the people of Israel drifted a long way from God. Do you see any similarities in our time? What things contribute to that kind of spiritual drifting?
2. Because the offering of incense was such a special privilege, the emotions of Zacharias must have been both intense and varied. What do you think he experienced in 1:12 when he went from "agitation" to "fear" ? Have you ever experienced that kind of emotional turbulence in a short time?
3. The angel not only told Zacharias that he and Elizabeth would have a son, he gave specific details about their son's characteristics, and calling. Why was that important? How should parents consider the spiritual purpose or calling of their children today?
4. Was the inability to speak more of a "correction" i.e. discipline, or a "confirmation" of Zacharias? Have you ever had an similar experience ?
5. Luke 1:6 describes Zacharias and Elizabeth in essentially the same way God described Job. How do you think this experience changed Job, as a person, spiritually? Can you describe an experience through which God changed you significantly?