

When a Godly Woman has Heard from God

Cornerstone Community Church – Pastor Jerry Ernst

May 12, 2024 (Mother's Day)

Scripture: Luke 1:57-66

Zachariah and Elizabeth were an elderly couple without children when God chose to give them a son, John the Baptist. John was born just months before Jesus and preceded Him his entire ministry. Jesus' mother, Mary, was related to John's mother, Elizabeth. All women are like Elizabeth, who experience pain in life and have great need to hear from God.

Questions for Women & Mothers:

- 1) When was the last time you heard from God?
- 2) What is it that God wants to reveal to you?
- 3) What hopeless area in your life do you need God's power?

When a Godly Woman has Heard from God (Luke 1:6-45, 57-66)

*"(5) In the time of Herod king of Judea there was a priest named **Zechariah**, who belonged to the priestly division of Abijah; his wife **Elizabeth** was also a descendant of Aaron. (6) **Both of them were righteous** in the sight of God, observing all the Lord's commands and decrees blamelessly. (7) But they were **childless** because Elizabeth was not able to conceive, and they were both very old... (13) But the angel said to him: 'Do not be afraid, Zechariah; **your prayer has been heard**. Your wife Elizabeth will bear you a son, and you are to call him John.'"*

HAS BEEN HEARD: (Gk: *eisakouó*): **"to listen, to obey."**

Usage: I hear deeply, listen to intentionally.

I.) ELIZABETH'S LIFE BRINGS ABOUT GOD'S PLAN: (Vv. 6-7, 13-17, 20-25, 36, 39-45)

God saw Elizabeth's Life... (Vv. 6-7, 13-17)

- Her UPRIGHTNESS (Vv. 6-7)
- Her PAIN - (Vs. 7) *Barrenness.
- Her PRAYER LIFE – (Vv. 13-17)

God Revealed His plan to Elizabeth by... (Vv. 20-25, 36-45)

- A MESSAGE for her (Vv. 11-17, 36) *her husband, Zechariah, and Mary.
- A SIGN to stop her (Vv. 20-23) *Zechariah becomes mute.
- A TIME APART to prepare her (Vv. 24-25) *five months in seclusion.
- A FILLING of God's Spirit to empower her (Vv. 39-41)
- A FAVOR to bless her (Vv. 25, 42-44)
- A BELIEF to secure her (Vs. 45)

II.) ELIZABETH'S FAITHFULNESS TO GOD'S PLAN: (Vv. 57-66)

*"(60) but his mother (Elizabeth) **spoke up** and said, '**No! He is to be called John.**' (61) They said to her, 'There is no one among your relatives who has that name.' ... (66) Everyone who heard this wondered about it, asking, 'What then is this child going to be?' For the Lord's hand was with him."*

Elizabeth was faithful because...

- She stuck with God's Plan (Vv. 60-61) "John" was not a family name.

- **She publicly spoke God's Plan** (Vs. 60) Elizabeth *spoke* publicly after she *heard* privately from God.
- **She set-apart her son (John) for God's Plan** (Vv. 64-66) *Isaiah 40:3-5; John 1:6-34.

III.) **GODLY WOMEN SPEAK CONFIDENTLY WHEN... (Vv. 19-45, 57-58)**

"(24) After this his wife Elizabeth became pregnant and for five months remained in seclusion. (25) 'The Lord has done this for me,' she said. 'In these days he has shown his favor and taken away my disgrace among the people.' ... (41) When Elizabeth heard Mary's greeting, the baby leaped in her womb, and Elizabeth was filled with the Holy Spirit."

- **Your Faith has INCREASED beyond your Pain** (Vv. 19-20, 24-25)
- **God's FAVOR is given** (Vv. 25, 43, 57-58)

HAS SHOWN HIS FAVOR: (Gk: *epeidon*): ***"to look upon."***

- **The HOLY SPIRIT is in you** (Vv. 41-45)

IV.) **WHEN A GODLY WOMAN HAS HEARD FROM GOD...**

She moves from...

- ...human *Pain* to God's Promise (Vv. 7, 13-17).
- ...human *Emptiness* to God's Anointing (Vv. 7, 41).
- ...human *Hopelessness* to God's Purpose (Vv. 24-25, 45, 80).
- ...private *Secrecy* to public Proclamation (Vv. 24, 60-61).

Jeremiah 29:12-13 *"(12) Then you will call upon me and come and pray to me, and I will listen to you. (13) You will seek me and find me when you seek me with all your heart."*