## Sermon-based Growth Group Questions "Advent Series: Hope"

Luke 1:5:25 December 3, 2023

Introductory Discussion: What from the sermon did you find most helpful, or eye-opening, or troubling?

- 1. Have you ever had an expectation that God was going to do something, but it was taking too long?
  - a. How do you remain faithful while you are waiting?
- 2. What is the difference between biblical hope and wishful thinking?
- 3. God answered Zachariah's prayer for a child and the Messiah. What does that tell us about our personal prayers and how they fit into God's overall plan?
  - a. How might this affect the timing?
- 4. How did Zachariah and Elizabeth show that they were being faithful while they waited on God?
- 5. In verse 20, the angel tells Zechariah that his prayer was being fulfilled "in the proper time." What does this tell us about God's will in your life?
  - a. How does that help you handle unanswered prayer?
- 6. In verse 17, what is John's purpose?
  - a. How does that prepare someone to accept Jesus?
- 7. What was Elizabeth's "shame" in the eyes of the people?
  - a. Who does the timing of her pregnancy draw attention to?
  - b. What does that tell us about how God might be using His timing in our lives?