

Intrude (Luke's Epiphany)
Luke 1:57-66
Birth of John
Sunday Class (12/22/24)

Read Luke 1:57-66

Now go back and read 1:13-17.

In what ways did the birth of Zechariah's son fulfill the words of the angel?

How did the neighbors and relatives respond to the birth of John?

How might these events have helped to pave the way, eventually, for the good news of the coming of the Messiah?

Imagine you're a neighbor of Zechariah and Elizabeth. How might you have reacted to this elderly couple having a baby? Especially with the news that God's angel had predicted this?

Notice that the neighbors made signs to Zechariah (v. 62) – apparently he could neither speak nor hear.

Why did Elizabeth and Zechariah insist that the boy be named John?

The name "John" means "the Lord has been gracious." Why do you think Elizabeth and Zechariah might have been delighted with the Lord's choice of a name for their son?

Luke notes that Zechariah wrote on a "writing tablet." Probably a board covered with wax – used with a stylus. What kind of messages might Z have written during the previous nine months?

When Zechariah, after 9 months, was finally able to speak, what was the subject of his first words?

Read v. 65 again.

Why "fear" among the neighbors?

What do you think "all these things" includes?

What do you think it means, in verse 66, for St. Luke to write of John, "For the hand of the Lord was with him"?