

INTRO

- As we enter Advent, do you particularly enjoy this time of year? Why or why not?

Advent is a time of waiting, longing, and anticipation. Elizabeth's story invites us to share in that experience. As we'll discover, her story is more relatable than we might think.

READ

Luke 1:5-25

REFLECT & RESPOND**The Weight of Waiting**

Elizabeth and Zechariah were faithful and blameless yet experienced deep disappointment and unfulfilled longings. Waiting is often accompanied by questions, doubts, and cultural pressures, but it's a universal part of our journey with God.

Qu: What areas in your life do you feel like you're in a season of waiting? How do unmet longings or disappointments affect your relationship with God?

Faithfulness in Waiting

Despite their pain, Elizabeth and Zechariah continued to serve God faithfully. God's intervention in their lives shows that His timing is perfect, even when it doesn't align with ours.

Qu: How do you think Elizabeth and Zechariah were able to remain faithful despite years of waiting?

What does faithfulness in waiting look like for you personally?

God's Faithfulness

God not only answered Elizabeth's prayer but included her in His larger redemptive plan for humanity. Her response magnified God's

faithfulness and removed her disgrace, showing that waiting is never wasted in God's hands.

Qu: Have you experienced a time when God's faithfulness became evident after a long season of waiting?

APPLICATION

Reflect: Spend time this week identifying one area of waiting in your life. Journal or pray about what it means to trust God in that space.

Practice: Commit to a specific act of faithfulness in your waiting, such as deepening your prayer life, serving in a ministry, or supporting others in their seasons of waiting.

Hope: As a group, commit to praying for one another's unmet longings, trusting that God is at work even when we don't see immediate answers.

"All shall be well, and all manner of things shall be well." — Julian of Norwich

He who was seated on the throne said, "I am making everything new!" — Rev 21:5

RESPOND & PRAY

- Thank God for His faithfulness, even in seasons of waiting.
- Pray for patience, trust, and the ability to see God's redemptive work in all things.