BIBLE DISCUSSION GROUP STUDY QUESTIONS

In preparation for Sunday, July 21, 2024

Memory Passage: Luke 1:68-75

DAY 1 – ASK FOR INSIGHT

(a) Read Luke 1:57–80. Summarize what happens in vs. 57–66.

- (b) Why did everyone "marvel" when Zechariah confirmed his son's name "is John?"
- (c) Why does their marvel turn to fear when Zechariah speaks (vs. 64–65)?
- (d) Why do the events of vs. 57–65 produce the responses in v. 66?

DAY 2 – ASK FOR INSIGHT

- (a) **Read Luke 1:57–80**. How are the realities of Zachariah being filled with the Spirit and prophesying connected?
- (b) What do you learn from repeated words and phrases, connecting words, and shifts in theme as you read vs. 68-79?
- (c) What basic structure do you identify in vs. 68–79?

DAY 3 – ASK FOR INSIGHT

(a) **Read Luke 1:57–80**. What OT themes or passages are quoted or alluded to in this prophecy (use your cross-references for help)?

- (b) In what ways does v. 69 convey Luke's desire to show Theophilus what has been fulfilled (1:1; see 1 Sam 2:10; Ps 132:17; Ezek 29:21)?
- (c) How are the "horn of salvation in the house of David" and "His holy covenant, the oath which He swore to Abraham our father" similar, different, and interrelated?
- (d) Is the salvation spoken of in vs. 69–75 physical, political, or spiritual? How do Ps 106:10, Mic 7:20, Zeph 3:15, and their contexts help you decide?

DAY 4 – ASK FOR INSIGHT

- (a) **Read Luke 1:57–80**. What human is the focus in Luke's second unit of thought (vs. 75–79), and what do you learn about his calling?
- (b) What passages did we study in Isaiah that help you see fulfillment in John's mission (also see Mal 3:1)?
- (c) Explain John's mission according to vs. 76–79.
- (d) How does John's mission help you further answer question (d) on Day 3?

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DAY 5 – ASK FOR INSIGHT

READ THE PASSAGE

- (a) Read Luke 1:57–80. What do you learn about God's character and work in these verses?
- (b) What was Luke's Main Idea, and how did he expect his audience to respond (Transformational Intent)?
- (c) Write down at least three ways this passage strengthens your faith and assurance, three ways it fuels your worship, and three ways it challenges your sin and informs your obedience.
- (d) How does the fulfillment of God "visiting" (notice the inclusio formed by this term, vs. 68 and 78) his people affect your witness to family, friends, coworkers, and strangers?
- (e) How does the concept of "mercy" drive the progression of thought in this passage? How should it drive your application?
- (f) How does the concept of "peace" drive the progression of thought in this passage? How should it drive your application?

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Zechariah's Benedictus: Jesus, Our Horn of Salvation