

BEYOND SUNDAY: December 20, 2020



Series Page: wearepcc.com/Christmas

Message: Zechariah's Song

Throughout the month of December, each Sunday and on Christmas Eve (Thursday, December 24), we will hear teachings based on songs in the Gospel of Luke.

During this Advent Season, PCC is wanting to help a weary world rejoice by giving you, your family and/or friends, a daily focus to help you experience the hope, peace, joy, and love of God. Our series, [A Weary World Rejoices](#), will focus on the 5 songs found in the Gospel of Luke. Those who sang these songs prove that in troublesome times there are still such good things to sing about God. This week we will see that in spite of the waiting for both the Messiah and his own child to arrive, Zechariah is able to sing his song of joy.

Monday Dec. 21 - Think of a time you had to wait a long time for something to come about. What was that like? How did you react? Did your attitude toward God change over time? Perhaps you are still waiting. Old Testament history gives many accounts of the children of Israel waiting. Who are some characters in the Bible who had to wait? This is a good exercise to do with your children and students and discuss what waiting is like for them.

Tuesday Dec. 22 - Listen to Zechariah's song ([link](#)) and ponder what is significant to you in these words. This is a nice activity to do together with your children or students. Have them identify content that is both silly and significant to them. What attributes of God in Zechariah's song are similar to those that we saw in Mary's song last week? Continue to focus on those attributes this week to give your song power.

Wednesday Dec. 23 - See [Luke 1:68-77](#). Zechariah declares both things that God *has* done and things that He *will* do. Make a list of those things. This week's speaker, Brian Rhen, encouraged us with this statement: "Remembering **who God is** and **what He has done** in the past **gives us hope** in the present." Reflect on God's goodness to you. Reflect on who God is in your life today. Create a new song in your heart today.

Thursday Dec. 24- Listen to the song [Light of the World by Lauren Daigle](#). Make a list of those who are waiting for a miracle and long for hope in this weary world. Then note and list the names of the Miracle-Giver and the One who gives hope. How is God speaking to you?

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Friday Dec. 25 - We know that in this Christmas season our joy, peace and hope is not generated on our own strength, our bright lights, or our packages under the tree. Remember our series on The Essentials? Reflect on true joy, peace, and hope. Jesus is our Light of the World that brings hope and salvation to us and to the weary world. Light a candle, flameless tea light (for safety), or grab a flashlight. Sit in the light and reflect on God as the Light of the World. What is God saying to you? If you can do so safely, turn off your light and sit in the darkness. What is God saying to you? Turn your light back on and praise God for being your light.

Saturday Dec. 26 - Perhaps you doubt God's plan or timing for your life like Zechariah. Maybe you have no song in your heart right now. What is it that is standing in the way of fully trusting God? He wants to sit with you in this. Bring your true self before God today. If you are lost in darkness and the shadow of death as Zechariah talked about, and have never surrendered your life to God, you can pray a simple prayer of salvation today. God is there for you, no matter what you are going through. He is merciful and compassionate and gives light and peace in this dark world.

Prayer: Today I am lost and struggling. Forgive me, God, for doing my own thing and how I've hurt you and others. Thank you that you came to earth, as Jesus, and died on the cross for my sins. I surrender my life to you today and accept you as my Savior. Thank you that you didn't leave us on earth to struggle alone in this weary world but gave us your Holy Spirit to guide us and give us hope regardless of our circumstances. Thank you for your mercy and grace. It's in faith I pray these things. In your Son's almighty name, Amen.

Actions or Resources:

- To get these daily devotionals sent to your phone, text "advent" to 650-332-4438.
- Want to try another daily Advent devotional tool besides the Beyond Sunday? On your [YOUVERSION](#) App pick one under "Plans" or go with A Weary World Rejoices (doesn't follow along with ours, but we like the title).
- **Get involved** with [PCC Christmas Community Outreach](#) to support local schools, police, and children.
- **Join us** for [Christmas Eve online](#) at 3pm/5pm Contemporary or 7pm Traditional.