

God's Amazing Plans for Your Life Christmas Blessings – Part 1

Life Church St. Louis – November 27, 2022

Lead Pastor – Dr. Dan Walker

Message Videos – [messages.lifechurchstlouis.org](https://www.messages.lifechurchstlouis.org)

Isaiah 9:6 (ESV) For to us a child is born, to us a son is given; and the government shall be upon his shoulder, and his name shall be called Wonderful Counselor, Mighty God, Everlasting Father, Prince of Peace.

Hebrews 11:8 (ESV) By faith Abraham obeyed when he was called to go out to a place that he was to receive as an inheritance. And he went out, not knowing where he was going.

Jeremiah 29:11 (ESV) For I know the plans I have for you, declares the LORD, plans for welfare and not for evil, to give you a future and a hope.

1. God's plans are _____

Luke 1:5-6 (ESV) In the days of Herod, king of Judea, there was a priest named Zechariah, of the division of Abijah. And he had a wife from the daughters of Aaron, and her name was Elizabeth. And they were both righteous before God, walking blamelessly in all the commandments and statutes of the Lord.

Luke 1:7-9 (ESV) But they had no child, because Elizabeth was barren, and both were advanced in years. Now while he was serving as priest before God when his division was on duty, according to the custom of the priesthood, he was chosen by lot to enter the temple of the Lord and burn incense.

Luke 1:10-12 (ESV) And the whole multitude of the people were praying outside at the hour of incense. And there appeared to him an angel of the Lord standing on the right side of the altar of incense. And Zechariah was troubled when he saw him, and fear fell upon him.

2. God's plans require _____

Luke 1:13-14 (ESV) But the angel said to him, "Do not be afraid, Zechariah, for your prayer has been heard, and your wife Elizabeth will bear you a son,

and you shall call his name John. And you will have joy and gladness, and many will rejoice at his birth,

Luke 1:15-16 (ESV) for he will be great before the Lord. And he must not drink wine or strong drink, and he will be filled with the Holy Spirit, even from his mother's womb. And he will turn many of the children of Israel to the Lord their God,

Luke 1:17 (ESV) and he will go before him in the spirit and power of Elijah, to turn the hearts of the fathers to the children, and the disobedient to the wisdom of the just, to make ready for the Lord a people prepared."

3. God's plans will be _____

Luke 1:18-19 (ESV) And Zechariah said to the angel, "How shall I know this? For I am an old man, and my wife is advanced in years." And the angel answered him, "I am Gabriel. I stand in the presence of God, and I was sent to speak to you and to bring you this good news.

Luke 1:20-21 (ESV) And behold, you will be silent and unable to speak until the day that these things take place, because you did not believe my words, which will be fulfilled in their time." And the people were waiting for Zechariah, and they were wondering at his delay in the temple.

Luke 1:22-23 (ESV) And when he came out, he was unable to speak to them, and they realized that he had seen a vision in the temple. And he kept making signs to them and remained mute. And when his time of service was ended, he went to his home.

Luke 1:24-25 (ESV) After these days his wife Elizabeth conceived, and for five months she kept herself hidden, saying, "Thus the Lord has done for me in the days when he looked on me, to take away my reproach among people."

Weekly Healing Scripture

John 11:43-44 (ESV) When he had said these things, he cried out with a loud voice, "Lazarus, come out." The man who had died came out, his hands and feet bound with linen strips, and his face wrapped with a cloth. Jesus said to them, "Unbind him, and let him go."

God's Amazing Plans for Your Life Study Guide
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Intro. What aspect of Jesus the Messiah is the most important to you (Isaiah 9:6)? Why?

How is Abraham part of God's plan to bring Jesus to save us (Hebrews 11:8)?

In what ways does Jeremiah 29:11 encourage you?

1A. How would you describe the character of Zechariah and Elizabeth (Luke 1:5-6)?

1B. How is this story similar to the story of Abraham and Sarah (Luke 1:7-9)? What is amazing about the timing of everything here?

1C. Why do you think that the angel appeared to Zechariah in the Holy Place (Luke 1:10-12)?

1D. How can you become more confident in God's amazing plan for your life?

2A. Why did it take so long for Zechariah's prayer for a son to be answered (Luke 1:13-14)?

2B. What does Luke 1:15-16 tell us about the personhood of unborn babies?

2C. What was the mission of John the Baptist (Luke 1:17)?

2D. Why is it sometimes hard for us to believe that God's plans are possible?

3A. Why do you think that Zechariah questioned Gabriel's words (Luke 1:18-19)?

3B. What did Zechariah's punishment have to do with his unbelief (Luke 1:20-23)? Do you think being mute affected his faith?

3C. What does Elizabeth's response to getting pregnant tell us about her (Luke 1:24-25)?

3D. What do you know about God's long-term plans for your life? How is your faith level for those plans?