



## It's About Time!

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**Q—Why did God choose for Jesus to be born at that exact time in history?**

**Today's Bible Text:** Luke 1:5-25 & 64-66

*But when the fullness of time had come, God sent forth his Son,*  
Galatians 4:4a (ESV)

⇒ **It's about being \_\_\_\_\_ till God brings fulfillment.**

*Yet those who wait for the LORD will gain new strength; They will mount up with wings like eagles, They will run and not get tired, They will walk and not become weary.* Isaiah 40:31 (NAS)

⇒ **It's in the \_\_\_\_\_ God does His best work.**

*The Lord is not slow in keeping his promise, as some understand slowness. Instead he is patient with you, not wanting anyone to perish, but everyone to come to repentance.* 2 Peter 3:9 (NIV)

⇒ **It's about time for \_\_\_\_\_.**

*You see, at just the right time when we were still powerless, Christ died for the ungodly.* Romans 5:6 (NIV)

*But God demonstrates his own love for us in this: While we were still sinners, Christ died for us.* Romans 5:8 (NIV)

**Q—Isn't it about time for you?**



## Study & Discussion for Your Next Small Group

**Theme:** *Barrenness to Baptist*

**Warm Up:** Where do you have the hardest time waiting (e.g., grocery store line, waiting room, etc.)? Why?

**Sermon Response:** What was a “take-away” you received from Sunday’s message?

**Read:** Luke 1:5-25 & 64-66

- Based on the characteristics Luke describes in verses 5-7, why were Zechariah and Elizabeth a good fit for God's plan to bring about the Christmas story?
- What feelings must the couple have had in light of their barrenness?
- In what ways have you have felt spiritually barren? In others words, how have you felt emptiness or longing that wasn't or hasn't been fulfilled?
- How might the account of this well aged couple affect your view of barrenness and God's purpose?
- What was God's purpose in making Zechariah mute till after John was born?
- How do you relate with Zechariah as he struggled with doubt in trusting God's truth and purpose?
- How does Elizabeth's response in verse 25 model and inspire you to trust in God's promises when there is a delay of fulfillment in your life?
- How is God's timing so important as it relates to His will? What does he teach us in our waiting?
- How would the birth of this son affect Zechariah and Elizabeth?
- How would you describe John's mission in your own words?
- What do you imagine where the thoughts and feelings of people about Zechariah's condition after leaving the temple, and then when John was born?
- How is John's mission a model for your mission today? How might you “prepare” people for the Lord? In what practical ways could you do this, in the coming week or throughout the Christmas season?

**Prayer:** Share needs and also ways God has answered prayer in your group.