

THE HILLCREST FAITHFULNESS CHALLENGE - IV

"Be Faithful in Praying"

Luke 1:5-17

One of the characteristics of a believer in Jesus is to be a person of prayer. Good things happen when God's people devote themselves to prayer. Our situation at Hillcrest Church bears witness to that truth. This morning, we see the faithfulness of God answering the prayer of Zechariah & Elizabeth – the parents of John the Baptist.

1. PRAYER SHOULD BE A _____ PRACTICE
EVEN WHEN THINGS LOOK _____, v. 5

- A. The time of Herod the Great – King of Judea
- B. The Jews were under Roman occupation
- C. The burden of taxation threatened their existence
- D. The priesthood was corrupt
- E. The last prophet Malachi came over 400 years ago
- F. The Messiah hasn't come

2. PRAYERS ARE OFTEN ANSWERED IN WAYS THAT WE
_____, vv. 5-7

- A. Zechariah means YHWH remembers
- B. Zech & Liz are from priestly lineages
- C. Zech & Liz were a godly couple
- D. Zech & Liz were having an old life crisis – no children
- E. Zech & Liz lived with a sense of disappointment

3. PRAYERS ARE ANSWERED ACCORDING TO
_____, vv. 8-13

- A. Zech was chosen to burn incense by lot
- B. Zech was visited by the angel Gabriel
- C. Zech's prayer had been heard
- D. Zech & Liz will have a son – John the Baptist

4. PRAYER CAN TURN _____ TIMES INTO
_____ TIMES, vv. 14-17

- A. John will be a joy & delight to Zech & Liz
- B. John means YHWH is gracious
- C. John will cause many to rejoice
- D. John will be great in the sight of the Lord, LK 7:28

ANSWERS: Persistent, Hopeless, Never Expect, God's
Timing, Hopeless, Joyful.

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ANNOUNCEMENTS

TODAY

Is the first week of Advent. We begin our countdown to one of the most joyous occasions on the Christian calendar – the birth of Jesus. The first candle we light symbolizes hope.

NEXT SUNDAY

Our new Pastor, Edward Black will bring an inspiring message

LADIES ORNAMENT EXCHANGE

December 13, 11am @ Hillcrest Church.

CHILDREN'S CHRISTMAS PLAY

December 21 during our Sunday service

OPERATION ANGEL TREE

Have your presents back at Hillcrest by December 14.

ANNUAL MEETING JANUARY 11, 2026

Welcome
To
Hillcrest Church

Merry Christmas!

*Do not be afraid, Zechariah; your prayer has been
heard. Your wife Elizabeth will bear you a son,
and you are to call him John.*

Luke 1:13

November 30, 2025

Pastor Edward Black, Campus Director Ken Olson

Pastor Bruce Guckelberg, PhD