

Rejoicing In The Tender Mercy of God

Questions for Study and Reflection

1. Have you ever considered the wisdom of God in his treatment of Zechariah? What was the suggestion given in the sermon as to why God was wise to make him deaf and unable to speak?
2. What does it mean to *not despise the discipline of the Lord (Proverbs 3:11-12)*? Does Zechariah despise the discipline of the Lord?
3. What are some ways that you are tempted to despise the discipline of the Lord in your own life? Why is it beneficial to receive God's discipline?
4. How did God seem to use the period of discipline for the good of Zechariah? How did the way that God worked in Zechariah become good for others too?
5. How did Zechariah's prophecy begin? What is interesting about the fact that blessing and praise of God was the first thing out of his mouth?
6. What was one of the main roles of the Holy Spirit in Zechariah's prophecy? Why do we need to be filled with the Holy Spirit this Christmas?
7. How does Zechariah talk about salvation in the prophecy? How did you hear it talked about in the sermon (example: is salvation impersonal or personal)?
8. How many times does the mercy of God get mentioned between verses 57-80? For what reason does God grant mercy in each case?
9. How does verse 78 talk about the mercy of God? How can you make that into an application for your life?