



Bible Study Questions

8th December 2024

Luke 1:67-79 (Zechariah's Song)

Introduction

During this season of Advent, we are briefly looking at three aspects of Jesus' arrival: compassion, restoration and justice. This week is on **compassion**.

Start by asking: who is the most *compassionate* person you know, and why?

Read & Reflect

Read **Luke 1:67-79** at least twice using different versions of the Bibles. As you read or listen to the words, reflect and share on the following:

- What stands out or what do you notice?
- What questions are raised for you?
- What might the Holy Spirit be saying to you?

Questions

- Zechariah's song is a doxology of praise to God because of his compassion. Looking at the song, what acts of God's compassion is Zechariah responding to?
- Read the following passages and discuss the nature of Jesus' compassion to those around him. **Matthew 9:36; Matthew 15:32; Luke 7:36-50; John 11:32-36.**
- In Hebrew the word for compassion is *rakhum*, which is closely related to the word for "womb" [*rakhem*]. This suggests that God's compassion for his people can be compared to the inner ache that a mother has for her children. How does this deepen your understanding and experience of God's compassion for you?

Application

- Why do you think we find it so difficult to imitate God's compassion for others in our world today?
- What acts of compassion might you be able to build into your life in the weeks ahead?