



The Women of Christmas Bible Study

with Liz Curtis Higgs

Week 5: With Heart and Soul and Voice

Luke 1:57

Luke 1:58

Luke 1:59

Luke 1:60

Luke 1:61

Luke 1:62

Luke 1:63

Luke 1:64

Luke 1:65

Luke 1:66

Luke 1:67

Luke 1:68

Luke 1:69

Luke 1:70

Luke 1:71

Luke 1:72

Luke 1:73

Luke 1:74

Luke 1:75

Luke 1:76

Luke 1:77

Luke 1:78

Luke 1:79

Matthew 1:18

Matthew 1:19

Matthew 1:20

Matthew 1:21

Matthew 1:22

Matthew 1:23

Matthew 1:24

Matthew 1:25

Bring This Story Home

1. If Zechariah's silence wasn't punishment, it still might have been God's discipline, as we read in Proverbs 3:12, "The Lord disciplines those he loves." How would you describe the difference between punishment and correction? When have you been aware that God was disciplining you, and what did you learn from the experience?

2. When he could speak again, Zechariah's first impulse was to praise God. It's easy to honor God when we're happy, grateful, and content, yet God is equally worthy of our praise when we're disappointed, sorrowful, or angry. Do you think praising God is more for our benefit or for his? How does the act of praising him change your attitude or perspective?

3. How was Joseph's original plan to quietly divorce Mary still a display of mercy? Though Joseph's spoken words are never recorded in the Bible, 1 Samuel 2:3 tells us, "the LORD is a God who knows, and by him deeds are weighed." In your own life are you more likely to *talk* about God or to be *obedient* to God's commands? Why might that be so?