



*What is the Lord doing?*

*Luke 1:67-80*

1. \_\_\_\_\_ his people.
2. \_\_\_\_\_ up a horn of salvation.  
.....from enemies Psalm 106:10  
.....mercy to our fathers
3. \_\_\_\_\_ his holy covenant.
4. \_\_\_\_\_ us from the hand of our  
enemies.

Luke 1:67-80 "What is the Lord doing?"

The status quo is the acceptable, the normal, and the safe threshold that normally allows us to get by in life without being noticed. Most of us have at least one part of our life that would be considered normal. It is in the predictable and safe parts of our lives that we can take a deep breath and gather a bit of courage to face the difficult or stressful parts of life that take us out of our routine. It is outside of normal where our weaknesses are exposed, where our faith is tested, and where some of us realized how unreliable the status quo is. It is also in these circumstances where some of us might begin to ask: "Lord, what are you doing?"

1. The background story needs to be re-read in Luke 1:8-20. At the end of this story, what is the reason Zechariah loses his ability to speak?
2. Read Luke 1:57-66. For approximately 9 months Zechariah was not able to speak. What came out of his mouth in verse 64?
3. What did God want Zechariah to be aware of during the 9 months of his wife Elizabeth's pregnancy?
4. Reading verse 58 and verse 65 what was apparent to neighbors and relatives during the pregnancy, after the birth and with Zechariah being able to speak after giving their son the name John?

5. In Luke 1:67, Zechariah begins his prophecy by stating, "Praise be to the Lord, the God of Israel, because he has come." If all of Israel was waiting for the Messiah, how was Jesus' birth a break from the status quo?

6. The Son of God coming as a little baby is unique, but in what other ways has God come to His people? See also Genesis 3:8, Exodus 3:1-6; Hosea 6:1-3.

7. In Luke 1:68, Zechariah prophesies the work of the Messiah. How did Jesus fulfill the following statements?

--"redeemed his people" see also Galatians 4:4-5, Ephesians 1:7, Titus 2:11-14.

--"raised a horn of salvation" see also Daniel 7:8, Psalm 106:10, Psalm 18:2.

--"remember his holy covenant" see also Psalm 25:6, Psalm 111:5, Isaiah 55:3, Genesis 15:1-15, Acts 3:25.

--"rescue us from the hand of our enemies" see also Colossians 1:13, Deuteronomy 31:5-6, Psalm 138:7.

8. As Zechariah ends his prophecy about the Messiah specifically, he says the Messiah will "enable us to serve him without fear". What have you seen Jesus do in your life that has changed you and helped you to rely upon the Lord?