



**SMALL GROUP CURRICULUM
FOR THE SERMON PREACHED:
PASSAGE: December 18, 2016**

The Greatest Gift Ever Given Luke 1: 57 – 80

1. **Mercy:** Pastor Kevin defined “mercy” as kindness to those who need it. It is also compassion and loving kindness. Discuss how in your weakness, God's mercy is a gift? Look at the five times “mercy” is used in Luke 1 and underline. Also look at “mercy” in Exodus 34:6 – 7, 2 Samuel 24:14, Hebrews 4:14 – 16 and Matthew 5:7. What do you notice from these passages? Would others describe you as a merciful person? Why? Why not?

2. **Freedom:** read: Luke 1: 67–70 and discuss what Zachariah specifically praised God for in this song? How can you praise God for the same things? Who in your family and friends are you praying will praise God in similar ways?

3. **Victory:** read verse 71-74 What covenant is referred to in verse 69? See 2 Samuel 7:12–16. What promises are in this covenant and how does this ensure victory over our enemies? What covenant is referred to in verse 73? See Genesis 12:2-3. What are the promises in this covenant? How does it confirm that Jesus is the only one who is strong enough to take the punishment for my sins?

4. **Forgiveness:** read verse 76–77 discuss how you received the knowledge of salvation and forgiveness of your sins. Read Jeremiah 31: 31–34. This is called the new covenant of grace (580 A.D.), Genesis 12:2-3 is called the Abrahamic covenant (2000 BC) and 2 Samuel 7:12–16 is called the Davidic covenant (1000 BC). In what ways do these covenants point to the entire storyline of the Bible and tie the book together?

5. **Light:** read verses 78–79 and discuss how these verses describe you before your salvation. Look at John 1:1-18 and underline all the references to Jesus. What is most remarkable to you from these verses regarding light. How does this affect how you will walk in the light?

Memory Verse

Jeremiah 31:33 “For this is the covenant that I will make with the house of Israel after those days, declares the Lord: I will put my law within them, and I will write it on their hearts. And I will be their God, and they shall be my people.”