

Message #6 | “What Will This Child Be?” | Luke 1:57-66 Todd Dugard | December 8, 2013

WARMING UP

1. What is the back story to your name(s)? Did your parents give you your name(s) for a particular reason? What was it? If you have children, how did you decide theirs?

DIGGING IN

Asking the faith-filled question, “What will this child be?” means . . .

2. *CELEBRATION: I place a high value on the child in my care and celebrate their birth and their presence in my life (1:57-58).*
 - The birth of a child is magnificent evidence of the Lord “show[ing] great mercy.” How should this perspective impact our celebration?
 - What does our contemporary culture suggest that it looks like to highly value our children? How does God’s Word agree and/or disagree?
3. *DETERMINATION: I rear my child according to God’s Word, determined to do so no matter what anyone else thinks of me or them (1:59-63).*
 - Have you ever had people react negatively to a child-rearing decision that you made based on a biblical conviction? What happened? How do Acts 5:29 and 1 Corinthians 4:3 speak to this?
 - What can we do to help our children realize their full potential for Christ—both within our nuclear families and as an extended church family?
4. *ANTICIPATION: I trust God, expressing my inability to know for sure, yet anticipating great things for my child in the future (1:64-66a).*
 - What does it mean to truly say, “I want what God wants for my child”? What must we be willing to embrace if we are serious about this prayer? Do you have this commitment with your own children? How so?
5. *RECOGNITION: I give God glory for what he is doing and will do in my child’s life, recognizing that all good things come from his hand (1:66b).*
 - What can you praise God for in your children’s lives? What signs do you see that “the hand of the Lord [is] with” them?

BREAKING OUT

6. Pray for your children, as well as the kids of Harvest, that God would save them and use them to impact the world for his glory.

