

Elizabeth: Lessons on Grace and Faith from the Life of an Older Woman (Answer Key)

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Part 1: From Barrenness to the Place of Blessing

1. Elizabeth's name means:
My God has remembered.

2. Revival is not based on anything we can do, but on what God has done.

3. Zacharias' name means: Jehovah has remembered.

4. No matter how hopeless your situation may seem, God has a message for you—a message of hope, a message of joy, and a message of reproach turned to blessing.

5. Elizabeth and Zacharias had a position of ministry, but even more important was their practice of observing all the Lord's commands, which was consistent with their position.

6. A woman who is walking with God creates a marriage where her husband can meet God's qualifications for Christian leadership.

- What kind of climate are you creating in your home?
- Are you a whiner? Demanding or discontent? Rebellious or independent?
- Don't underestimate the power of your Christian walk!

7. Elizabeth longed for a child, a sign of God's blessing and favor in the Hebrew culture.

8. God is not as concerned about our life working out for us, as He is our *sanctification*, and our conformity to the image of Christ.

9. Elizabeth's barrenness did not shake her trust in God.

10. Elizabeth's barrenness became an instrument through which God would ultimately be glorified.

11. One definition of revival is: God bringing something back to life that looked like it has no hope of living again.

12. We will always have unfulfilled longings this side of heaven.

- It's not wrong to have unfulfilled longings.
- It is wrong to demand that God fulfill them here and now.
- It is wrong to fulfill those longings ourselves by taking shortcuts.

13. According to Elisabeth Elliott, our unfulfilled longings are material for sacrifice, because they give us something to offer God.

Part 2: Finding Joy in Sensitive Service

1. Nothing in your life is chance. It is all ordained by God.

2. Trust the sovereignty of God, even in the details of your life that seem to be chance.

3. When God sends revival, it's always a supernatural work.

4. Weeping may endure for a night, but joy comes in the morning. God remembers . . . and He is absolutely reliable!

5. Being a wife and mother is a high and holy calling.

6. Elizabeth was in the stream of the unfolding of the redemptive plan of God.

7. Elizabeth, as the mother of John the Baptist, had to be willing to be an unusual woman.

8. John would be an instrument of revival for God's people. He would ". . . make ready a people prepared for the Lord."

9. Elizabeth had to be willing to let God deal with her husband in His own way.

- Let God be God in your husband's life.
- Don't try to rescue your husband from the cross.
- Don't tell God how to deal with your husband.
- God wants to turn your husband into a "man of God" more than you do!

10. Be alert to the seasons of your life.

11. During the last trimester of Elizabeth's pregnancy, we can assume that she was instructing Mary. What kinds of things do you think she shared as she mentored Mary in the ways of God?

12. Elizabeth was others-conscious.

13. Who is seeking you out . . . knocking at your door? Who can you commit to mentoring in the days ahead?

Part 3: A Woman's Role in Revival

1. If you are going to raise children who are instruments of revival, you've got to be filled with the Holy Spirit.

2. Elizabeth was controlled, guided, and filled with God's Spirit then she spoke words that edified and blessed.

3. Elizabeth affirmed Mary with the words of blessing of childbearing.

4. She encouraged Mary to believe God for the instruction.

5. One key to revival is a woman's contribution: the birthing and nurturing of life, and then passing on instruction to the next generation.

6. Elizabeth's relatives and neighbors heard how God has showed her great mercy in ending her barrenness, and her reproach was turned to rejoicing.

7. When Elizabeth named her child, she was one with her husband in obeying God. She carried out what was in Zacharias' heart—what God had told her husband.

8. God wants us to get the vision (picture) of what it will be like when He opens heaven and comes down in revival.

9. Not only did Elizabeth birth a child, she had to be willing to yield (give) the child up for God's purposes.

- Are you willing to release your children to the will of God?
- Remember: it's not about us; it's about God's glory (purpose) in this world.

10. Elizabeth surrendered herself, and God fulfilled His purposes in and through her life.

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