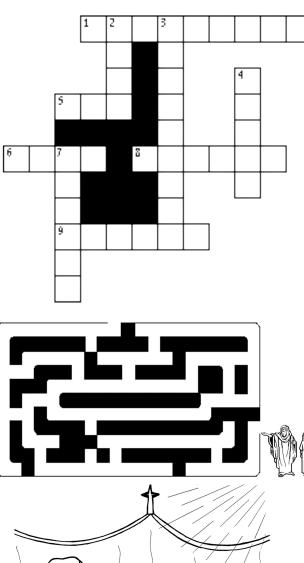
## "THE ANGEL AND THE PRIEST"

- 1. What is a recent surprise that your family has experienced: A job promotion? A new addition to the family? Your child got all "A's"?
- 2. What stands out about Zechariah & Elizabeth (vv. 5-7)? Why clues to their pedigree are given?
- 3. Barrenness was seen as a sign of God's disfavor and a legitimate reason for divorce. What do you think kept them together? What feelings must the couple have had in light of their barrenness?
- 4. What was the significance of the task for which Zechariah was chosen (see 1Ch 23:13)? Since many priests never had this opportunity, what might he be feeling as he prepares for it? How about when the angel appears?
- 5. How would the birth of this son affect Zechariah and Elizabeth?
- 6. How would you describe John's mission in your own words?
- 7. Why would Zechariah doubt?
- 8. In what ways have you or are you experiencing spiritual barrenness? How does this story affect the way you perceive it?
- 9. Who do you most identify with in this story? Why?
- 10. When was the last time you doubted God? What was the cause?
- 11. How do you think God wants to grow you in your ability to place your faith and trust in Him this year?





ANGEL BARREN ELIZABETH GABRIEL HOLY SPIRIT INCENSE PRIEST JOHN SON LORD TEMPLE MUTE ZACHARIAS PRAYER **3 DOWN**— "There was in the days of Herod, the king of Judea, a certain priest named \_\_\_\_\_, of the division of Abijah. His wife was of the daughters of Aaron, and her name was Elizabeth." **LUKE 1:5** 

**1 ACROSS**— "But they had no child, because \_\_\_\_\_ was barren, and they were both well advanced in years. LUKE 1:7

9 ACROSS— "So it was, that while he was serving as \_\_\_\_\_\_ before God in the order of his division, according to the custom of the priesthood, his lot fell to burn incense when he went into the temple." LUKE 1:8-9
4 DOWN— "Then an \_\_\_\_\_\_ of the Lord appeared to him, standing on the right side of the altar of incense." LUKE 1:11

**8 ACROSS**— "But the angel said to him, 'Do not be afraid, Zacharias, for your \_\_\_\_\_ is heard; and your wife Elizabeth will bear you a son, and you shall call his name John.' " **LUKE 1:13** 

**2 DOWN**— "And he will turn many of the children of Israel to the \_\_\_\_\_ their God." **LUKE 1:16** 

**5 ACROSS**— "And Zacharias said to the angel, 'How shall I know this? For I am an \_\_\_\_\_ man, and my wife is well advanced in years.' " **LUKE 1:18** 

6 ACROSS— "But behold, you will be \_\_\_\_\_ and not able to speak until the day these things take place, because you did not believe my words which will be fulfilled in their own time." LUKE 1:20

7 DOWN— "But when he came out, he could not speak to them; and they perceived that he had seen a vision in the \_\_\_\_\_, for he beckoned to them and remained speechless." LUKE 1:22

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