

GROWTH GROUP DISCUSSION

CONNECT

Share with your group a favorite experience from your summer and something you hope not to repeat!

LEARN & APPLY

Deep Roots Make Good Fruit. Our Goal: to use the next nine months to learn the contents of Jesus' story, according to Luke. Take turns reading Luke 1:1-25 and discuss the following questions:

- The whole story starts in the Israelite temple in Jerusalem - the center of worship for God's people. Pick two of the following questions and share for 1 minute with the group: How is/isn't worship a centering force for your life story? What parts of worship are easiest or hardest for you to connect with? What ways would you like to engage differently in worship or give worship a more central place in your life?
- This episode happens because God sent a message to Zechariah about the new thing He was doing. His son, John, would be and speak a message that pointed forward to Jesus. Has anyone else's life pointed you to Jesus? What message do you think your life speaks to others? How could your life point to Jesus more than it does?
- Zechariah had trouble believing, not that God could act, but that he personally could be part of God's plan. What doubts do you have about your qualifications to fit in God's family or God's work?
- Luke 1:15-16 says John will be full of the Holy Spirit, and he will turn the hearts of people toward one another and toward God. What's one turn you think the Spirit of God is leading you to make this week?

PRAY

Ask each person to pray out loud by filling in the blanks: "God, I'm thankful for my _____ and ask for help this week to _____." The leader can close by thanking God for a summer full of memories and a season of learning and growing ahead.