

Preparing for Silent Night

Our Mission: To take as many people to Heaven as we can before we die. Period.

The Birth of John the Baptist Foretold

And he will turn many Israelites to the Lord their God. He will be a man with the spirit and power of Elijah. He will prepare the people for the coming of the Lord. He will turn the hearts of the fathers to their children, and he will cause those who are rebellious to accept the wisdom of the godly." **Luke 1:16-17 NLT**

Zechariah said to the angel, "How can I be sure this will happen? I'm an old man now, and my wife is also well along in years." Then the angel said, "I am Gabriel! I stand in the very presence of God. It was he who sent me to bring you this good news! But now, since you didn't believe what I said, you will be silent and unable to speak until the child is born. For my words will certainly be fulfilled at the proper time." **Luke 1: 18-20 NLT**

1. We are called to point everyone towards a relationship with Jesus. We cannot be silent about "Silent Night."

The Birth of John the Baptist

So they used gestures to ask the baby's father what he wanted to name him. He motioned for a writing tablet, and to everyone's surprise he wrote, "His name is John." Instantly Zechariah could speak again, and he began praising God. **Luke 1:62-64 NLT**

2. Obedience gives you a voice for God. Disobedience takes away your voice.

Zechariah's Prophecy

"And you, my little son, will be called the prophet of the Most High, because you will prepare the way for the Lord. You will tell his people how to find salvation through forgiveness of their sins." **Luke 1:76-77 NLT**

John replied in the words of the prophet Isaiah: "I am a voice shouting in the wilderness, 'Clear the way for the Lord's coming!'" **John 1:23 NLT**

We as a church are to prepare physically, spiritually, and socially.

Bring the WHOLE family as a way for everyone to attend.

John the Baptist Exalts Jesus

He must increase, but I must decrease. **John 3:30 ESV**

3. Christmas was never meant to be about us; it's always been all about Jesus.