

 **LIFE Group Discussion Questions for December 3/4th 2016**

**GUIDELINES:** LIFE Group Discussion Questions are meant to be a tool used to help guide your time together. You may or may not fit all areas and questions into your time. Additional resources such as the LIFE Group Video Question can be found each week at: [www.crossroadschurch.com/Ministries](http://www.crossroadschurch.com/Ministries) under ‘LIFE Group Resources’.

**Enjoy your time and let God lead you!**

**KICKING IT OFF:** 1) What do you consider the most valuable thing you own? Why? 2) If you could go back to school and study anything you wanted, what would it be? Why?

**MEMORY VERSE***: “May my prayer be counted as incense before you; The lifting up of my hands as the evening offering.” Psalm 141:2 NASB*

**GROUP DISCUSSION:** *LIFE Group Video Question – Visit* [*www.crossroadschurch.com/ministries*](http://www.crossroadschurch.com/ministries) *under the LIFE Group Resources Tab to access the Video and Video Group Question.*

**GOING DEEPER:**

1. As Pastor Chuck explained, the nation of Israel had heard no prophetic Word from God for over 400 years. What was unique about the priest Zacharias according to Luke 1:5-7? Why was the relationship between Zacharias and his wife different? What does that say about his character? How does that compare to today’s society? What makes the difference?
2. Read Luke 1:8 – 10. Zacharias had been performing his duties for well over 35 years and never been selected to enter the temple and burn incense. Describe how you would feel in this circumstance – first about the non-selection and then about the selection. Have you ever been in a similar circumstance – non-recognition? Explain your feelings.
3. Pastor Chuck described how special and unique the burning of the incense was. What were the dangers that Zacharias faced in completing his task? Based on how would you have been living, how would you have reacted if you were totally isolated and an angel of the Lord appeared to you? (Luke 1:12)
4. Notice what the angel tells Zacharias in Luke 1:13 and 14. How can we defeat the “feeling” that our petitions have not been heard?
5. What would you describe as the underlying theme of this “story?”

***Love Like Jesus Loves***

* Crossroads contributed almost 3,000 shoe boxes of gifts during Operation Christmas Child. How does that illustrate Jesus’ teaching of loving others?

***Intentional Intimacy***

* Read Joshua 1:8 and Psalm 1:1-2. Have you ever spent time in meditation? What does meditating on “The Word” mean to you? Have you seen personal growth in this area over the past year?

***Fully Surrendered***

* As Pastor Chuck illustrated, Zacharias had been a priest for many years and had been faithful to all of his roles and duties. In other words, he had fully surrendered his entire adult life to being a priest. Have you fully surrendered your time, talents, and treasure to God?

 ***Experience More***

* It is estimated that about 800 people had a Thanksgiving dinner because of the Crossroads Pantry. If you have ever participated in a ministry like this, explain how you felt afterwards.