

Nov 27 slides for sermon

Slide 1:

The Annunciation: Encounter Hope through Prayer  
An introduction to Advent (preparation for Jesus' coming)

Slide 2:

How do we prepare for Christmas?

Slide 3:

We do many things to prepare for Christmas, but the most important is this:  
*Being Righteous* and Blameless in the eyes of God

Slide 4:

Luke 1:6.

Both Zechariah and his wife Elizabeth were righteous in the sight of God, observing all the Lord's commands and decrees blamelessly.

Slide 5:

A question for you to consider carefully:

Are you trying to be righteous in the eyes of the Master or the eyes of the masses?

Slide 5a:

Sometimes people judge you as a sinner.

Maybe some thought that Zechariah and Elizabeth were sinner, since they had no children.

Slide 6:

Actually, they were BLAMELESS yet childless.

Luke 1:7, "But they had no children, because Elizabeth was barren, and both were getting on in years."

Slide 6a:

They were in a touch situation socially but continued to trust in God.

Slide 7:

What was on Zechariah's wish list?

What is on your wish list?

Slide 8:

Don't be afraid, your prayers will be answered

Luke 1:13

Do not be afraid, Zechariah; your prayer has been heard. Your wife Elizabeth will bear you a son.

Slide 9:

How do we live righteously and blamelessly? Luke 1:6 "...observing all the Lord's commands"

Slide 9a:

The more you love Jesus and allow him to control your life, the more you will show his righteousness in your life.

Slide 10:

Summary:

We should prepare for Christmas by *Being Righteous and Blameless* in the eyes of God.

Slide 10a:

God's opinion is what matters, not the opinions of other people.

Slide 11:

Are you like Zechariah?

Do you have a longing in your heart for something that only God can give?

Slide 12:

Dear God, I thank you that no situation is too far out of your control to provide. Forgive me for trying so hard to make things happen on my own. Help me to trust you more, help me in my unbelief. I thank you in advance for your miracles, and I thank you for providing \_\_\_\_\_. In Jesus' name. Amen.