



## The Wonder of Christmas: Mighty God

December 10, 2023

**Speaker:** Pastor Heather Zempel

**Scripture:** Isaiah 9:6, 1 Corinthians 1:22-25, Luke 1:46-55, Luke 4:18-19, Luke 7:20-22, Colossians 1:17

**Sermon Overview:** John the Baptist came in the spirit of Elijah. He prepared the way for Jesus, and Jesus declared that, of those born of women, no one was greater than John the Baptist. Yet, John doubted. When he found himself in prison, under the rule of Herod, John questioned whether Jesus truly was the One. Even if we have been walking with God for years, even if we have experienced His miracles, we can find ourselves in a darkness that causes us to doubt. Even in that darkness, God is mighty. He is mighty enough to bring light into that darkness, the only thing able to drive darkness away.

### Sermon Series Question:

1. How has Jesus been your Mighty God during times of darkness?

### Sermon-Specific Questions:

1. When John asked if Jesus really was the One to come, Jesus gave John evidence of what He had done: the blind see, the deaf hear, the lame walk, the sick are healed, and the dead are raised. What evidence of God's mightiness have you seen even in your darkest moments?
2. John's question to Jesus expressed his need for reassurance. What needs did you have in your dark places? How did Jesus meet them? Are there needs that you have now? Will you bring them to the Lord? Write them down. Wait and see how God meets those needs.
3. We can bring light to the darkness by declaring God's word, character, and works over these dark places. What promise from God can you declare over your dark places right now? What about God's character can you declare (i.e. His faithfulness, trustworthiness,

etc.)? What has God done in your life that you can speak about to bring light and faith into your situation?

### **Digging Deeper:**

1. Jesus' words break into our world with power, where Heaven invades Earth. This Christmas season, reflect on what areas God has already brought reconciliation, restoration, and redemption. Reflect on how He did it. Now consider areas in your life that may need to be reconciled, restored, or redeemed, now. Read Mary's Magnificat in Luke 1:46-55. How do Mary's words recount the goodness of God and express faith for her uncertain future? Read Luke 4:18-19. How do Jesus' words speak to the circumstances in your life? Create your own magnificat. Recount God's goodness in your life and express faith toward your future, with an eye toward Jesus' purpose in Luke 4.

### **Practical Application:**

- Join a group or a ministry team, or become a mission partner!
- Get in community by joining a small group.