

Responding to God Luke 1:5-25

Luke 1:78-79 – ⁷⁸Because of our God's merciful compassion, the dawn from on high will visit us ⁷⁹to shine on those who live in darkness and the shadow of death, to guide our feet into the way of peace. (CSB)

I. Responding to God requires personal **righteousness**.

Luke 1:6 – Both were righteous in God's sight, living without blame according to all the commands and requirements of the Lord. (CSB)

1 Corinthians 10:13 – No temptation has come upon you except what is common to humanity. But God is faithful; he will not allow you to be tempted beyond what you are able, but with the temptation he will also provide a way out so that you may be able to bear it. (CSB)

II. Responding to God requires personal **responsibility**.

Luke 1:8 – When his division was on duty and he was serving as priest before God (CSB)

James 1:12 – Blessed is the one who endures trials, because when he has stood the test he will receive the crown of life that God has promised to those who love him. (CSB)

III. Responding to God requires personal **reliance**.

Luke 1:18-20 – ¹⁸“How can I know this?” Zechariah asked the angel. “For I am an old man, and my wife is well along in years.”
¹⁹The angel answered him, “I am Gabriel, who stands in the presence of God, and I was sent to speak to you and tell you this good news. ²⁰Now listen. You will become silent and unable to speak until the day these things take place, because you did not believe my words, which will be fulfilled in their proper time.” (CSB)

2 Timothy 2:12-13 – ¹²if we endure, we will also reign with him; if we deny him, he will also deny us; ¹³if we are faithless, he remains faithful, for he cannot deny himself. (CSB)

1 Chronicles 16:11 – Seek the Lord and his strength; seek his face
always. (CSB)

Thought For The Week:

God uses those who rightly responds to Him.

Preparing for your Verse of the Year

1. What one thing could you do to improve your prayer life this year?
2. What is one thing you could do this year to increase your enjoyment of God?
3. What is the most humanly impossible thing you will ask God to do this year?
4. What is the single most important thing you could do to improve the quality of your family this year?
5. In which spiritual discipline do you most want to make progress this year, and what will you do about it?
6. What is the single biggest time-waster in your life, and what will you do about it this year?
7. What is the most helpful new way you could strengthen your church?
8. For whose salvation will you pray most fervently this year?
9. What is the most important way you will, by God's grace, try to make this year different from last year?
10. What single thing that you plan to do this year will matter most in ten years? In eternity?