- I. Our Response To Hope (Luke 1:56-66)
  - A. Hope is Born (56-57)
    - 1. Mary Remained with Elizabeth until her term (56)
    - 2. Elizabeth bore a son (57)
    - 3. God's Word has Come to Pass (certainty)
  - B. The Response to Hope (58-66)
    - 1. God's Blessing is Followed By Obedience (58-64)
      - a. Everyone Recognized God's Blessing (58-59)
        - i. They understood God's mercy to her (58)
          - No great stretch to see God's Work
          - It is all around us
          - Easy for people to Rejoice
        - ii.. They Wanted to name the Baby (59)
          - Followed Tradition
          - Accept blessing and "back to normal"
          - Tip hat to God
      - b. Parent's Responded to Blessing with Obedience (60-64)
        - i. The Parent's Obeyed God's Word (60-62)
          - They named him John
          - Despite the objections of the people
          - They chose to follow God's Word
        - ii. The Silence of Zechariah was lifted (64)
          - God's Word was fulfilled
          - Baby born, baby named, silence lifted
          - -"till all these things are fulfilled"
        - iii. Obedience should follow Blessing
          - God has the big picture
          - Our thankfulness includes much more than words and songs
      - c. Everyone Wondered At God's Work (65-66)
        - i. Word spread about what happened (65)
          - Blessing and Obedience are noticed
          - They are a testimony
        - ii. Word spread about the child (66)
          - God exalts obedience before men
          - Men wonder at the life of the godly
        - ii. God's hand is with the obedient
          - Not perfection, direction
          - heart is changed