

"....ultimately the problem is not a SKIN problem, it is a SIN problem..."

## Luke

## The Birth of John

Luke 1.57-80

## The Way God Prepares His People

- Our faith must actively be maintained and grown (1:62–64, cf. 1:18–20)
- We must resist social pressure when it is at odds with God's will (1.59–64)
- We must view our place in this world in connection with God's overarching plan (1:67-75)
- We must recognize and accept the close connection between salvation and the forgiveness of sins (1:76–79)

## Putting it into Practice

- Commit to regular "exercise" of faith through spiritual disciplines
- Consciously identify the competing "audiences" which seek our conformity, and evaluate God's opinion in connection with them
- Cultivate a "Christian mind" which is informed and trained to think within the perspective of God's overarching plan (creation, fall, redemption, restoration)