

Zacharias and the Birth of John

Luke 1:5-25, 57-80

The Story

Parents: Review this lesson with your child.

Have you ever made a promise to someone? Today's story is about a very important promise that God made to all people! Because of sin, all people need a Savior. God promised to send a special person to tell people about the coming Savior, Jesus.

In the city of Jerusalem there was a priest named Zacharias. He had a wife named Elizabeth, and they worshiped and loved God. But they were sad that they had no children. One day, Zacharias was doing his work in the church, when suddenly he saw an angel of the Lord! Zacharias was very scared, but the angel told him not to be afraid. The angel told him that God had heard his prayers and would send him a son! The angel also told him to name his son John.

Zacharias wondered how this would happen since he was so old. The angel said to him, "God sent me to tell you this good news! Because you did not believe me, you will not be able to speak until the baby is born." At that moment, Zacharias lost his voice and was not able to speak. Finally, the time came for Elizabeth to have the baby. Since it was a boy, all the friends and relatives wanted to name him Zacharias after his father. But Elizabeth told them his name would be John. So the relatives asked Zacharias what to call the baby. Because he could not talk, Zacharias wrote on a tablet "His name is John." Suddenly he was able to speak again! Zacharias thanked and praised God.

Everyone was amazed at the birth of John, for they knew that he was a special baby. Do you know why John was so special? The Lord chose him to prepare the way for Jesus. The people were excited because they knew that Jesus would be coming to save

them from their sins! God kept His promise to send a special person to tell people about Jesus.

God always keeps His promises to us!

Passage

Jesus said, "Lo I am with you always, even to the end of the age." Matt. 28:20

Hymn WS 709 v. 1

God loves me dearly, grants me salvation;
God loves me dearly loves even me.
Therefore I'll say again:
God loves me dearly,
God loves me dearly, loves even me.

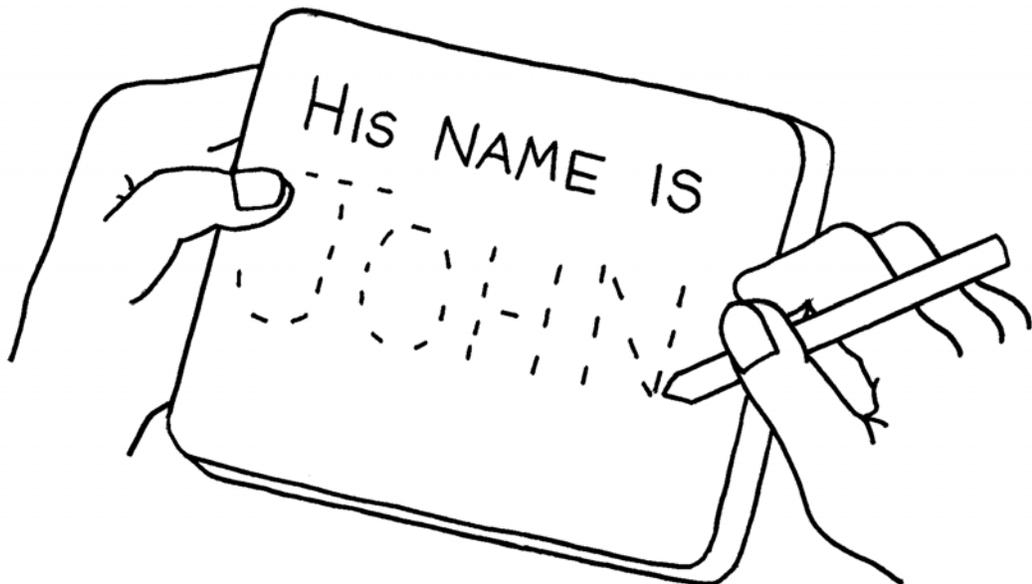
Prayer

Dear Jesus,
We are happy You always keep Your promises. Thank You for coming to die for our sins so we can be with You in heaven. Amen.





Classroom Activity - Trace the letters on Zacharias' tablet to show what the baby's name will be.



Classroom Art Activity - Angel

Cut out the shapes below and arrange in the order shown to make the angel. NOTE: You may use construction paper or wallpaper and add glitter or glitter glue to decorate. You may also use a doily heart for wings.

