



WEEK 6 DAY 1 John the Baptist Was Born

Step 1: Watch:

“John Was Born” Gospel Project Video: <https://www.crosssound.org/family-videos>

Step 2: Discuss

1. Can anyone tell me whose family we learned about last week? Yes! We learned about Jesus’ family. You can find stories about many of the people in Jesus’ family throughout the Old Testament. God promised to send a Messiah from the Jewish people. The New Testament begins with God’s keeping that promise.
2. Two week ago we learned about the Prophet Malachi. Who did he prophesy would come?
3. After 400 years of silence, what were God’s first words to his people? Read Luke 1:13 to find the answer.

Step 3: Sing Together

Sing this sessions memory verse again at <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=x6gkcMPmio8>

Step 4: Review

- *Story point:* John was born to prepare the way for Jesus.
- *Memory verse:* John 1:1-2 “In the beginning was the Word, and the Word was with God, and the Word was God. He was in the beginning with God.”
- *Big picture question:* Is Jesus God or human? As the Son of God, Jesus is both fully God and fully human.

Step 5: Pray

Ask for everyone to share a prayer request and something they want to thank the Lord for, and then take turns praying out loud.

Curriculum Notes:

Between the Book of Malachi (the last book in the Old Testament) and the Gospels (the first books in the New Testament) God was silent. He did not speak directly to His people for 400 years. A lot changed for God’s people during that time. The rulers in Rome took over, and some people might have wondered if God forgot about His people. Did God forget? No! In today’s Bible story, we heard what God said when He finally broke the silence.

Malachi said that someone would come before Jesus. The person who would get people ready for Jesus was John!



WEEK 6 DAY 2 John the Baptist Was Born

Step 1: Read

[Luke 1:1-24](#)

Step 2: Discuss

1. Who was Zechariah, and why was he in the temple?
2. How do you think he felt when the angel of the Lord told him he was going to have a son?
3. Why was he unable to speak when he came out?

Step 3: Sing Together

Deep Cries Out <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=1gFwpOjF-5o>

Step 4: Review

- *Story point:* John was born to prepare the way for Jesus.
- *Memory verse:* John 1:1-2 “In the beginning was the Word, and the Word was with God, and the Word was God. He was in the beginning with God.”
- *Big picture question:* Is Jesus God or human? As the Son of God, Jesus is both fully God and fully human.

Step 5: Pray

Ask for everyone to share a prayer request and something they want to thank the Lord for, and then take turns praying out loud.

Optional Family Activity:

Tell your kids about how you felt when you learned they were coming into your family (either by birth or adoption). How did you respond, and share the news with others?



WEEK 6 DAY 3 John the Baptist Was Born

Step 1: Read

[Luke 1:25-56](#)

Step 2: Discuss

1. In this passage we learn about how the birth of Jesus was foretold. How was it similar to how John's birth was foretold? How was it different?
2. When Mary went to visit Elizabeth (both carrying children), how did baby John react in Elizabeth's belly?
3. How did both Elizabeth and Mary respond?

Step 3: Sing Together

Bless the Lord, 10,000 Reasons: <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=ogSZEuuh9I0>

Step 4: Review

- *Story point:* John was born to prepare the way for Jesus.
- *Memory verse:* [John 1:1-2](#) "In the beginning was the Word, and the Word was with God, and the Word was God. He was in the beginning with God."
- *Big picture question:* Is Jesus God or human? As the Son of God, Jesus is both fully God and fully human.

Step 5: Pray

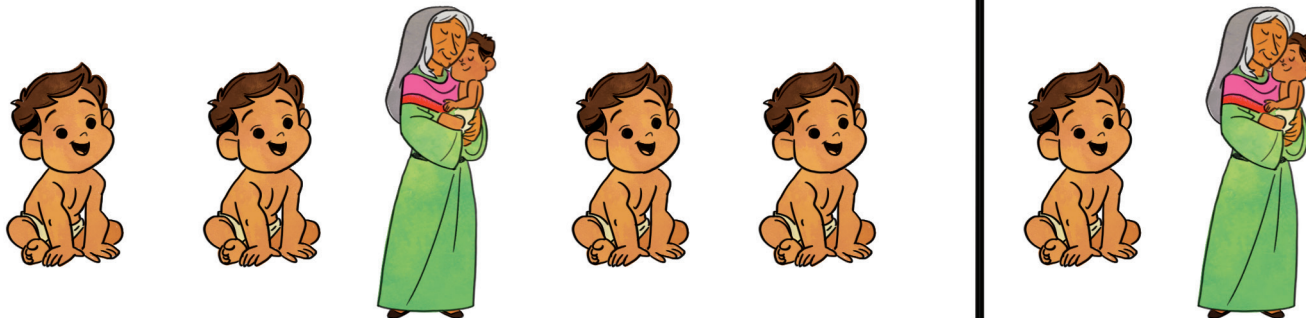
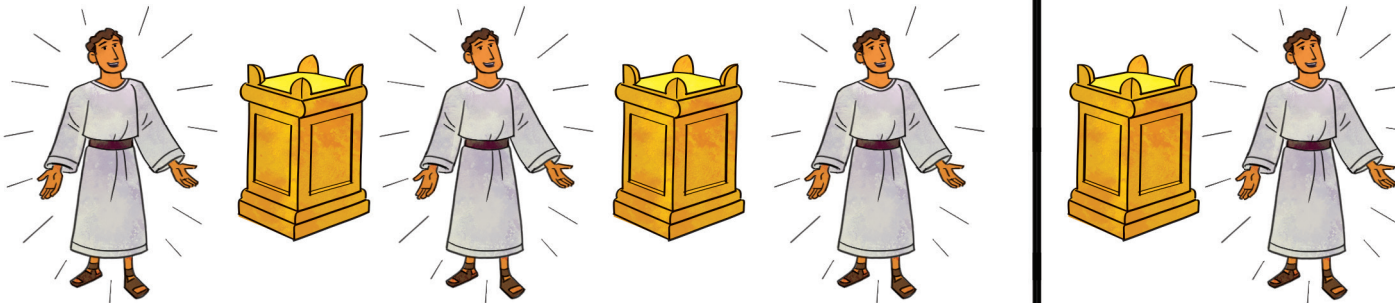
Ask for everyone to share a prayer request and something they want to thank the Lord for, and then take turns praying out loud.

Optional Family Activity:

Complete the attached activity sheets that go with this week's passage.

Finish the Pattern

INSTRUCTIONS: Circle what comes next in each row.



BIBLE STORY SUMMARY:

- An angel told Zechariah that he and Elizabeth would have a son.
- God made Zechariah unable to speak because he did not believe.
- Zechariah was able to speak again when his son, John, was born.
- John was born to get people ready for Jesus.

KEY PASSAGE: John 1:1

BIG PICTURE QUESTION:

- Is Jesus God or a human? Jesus is both fully God and fully human.

FAMILY DISCUSSION STARTERS:

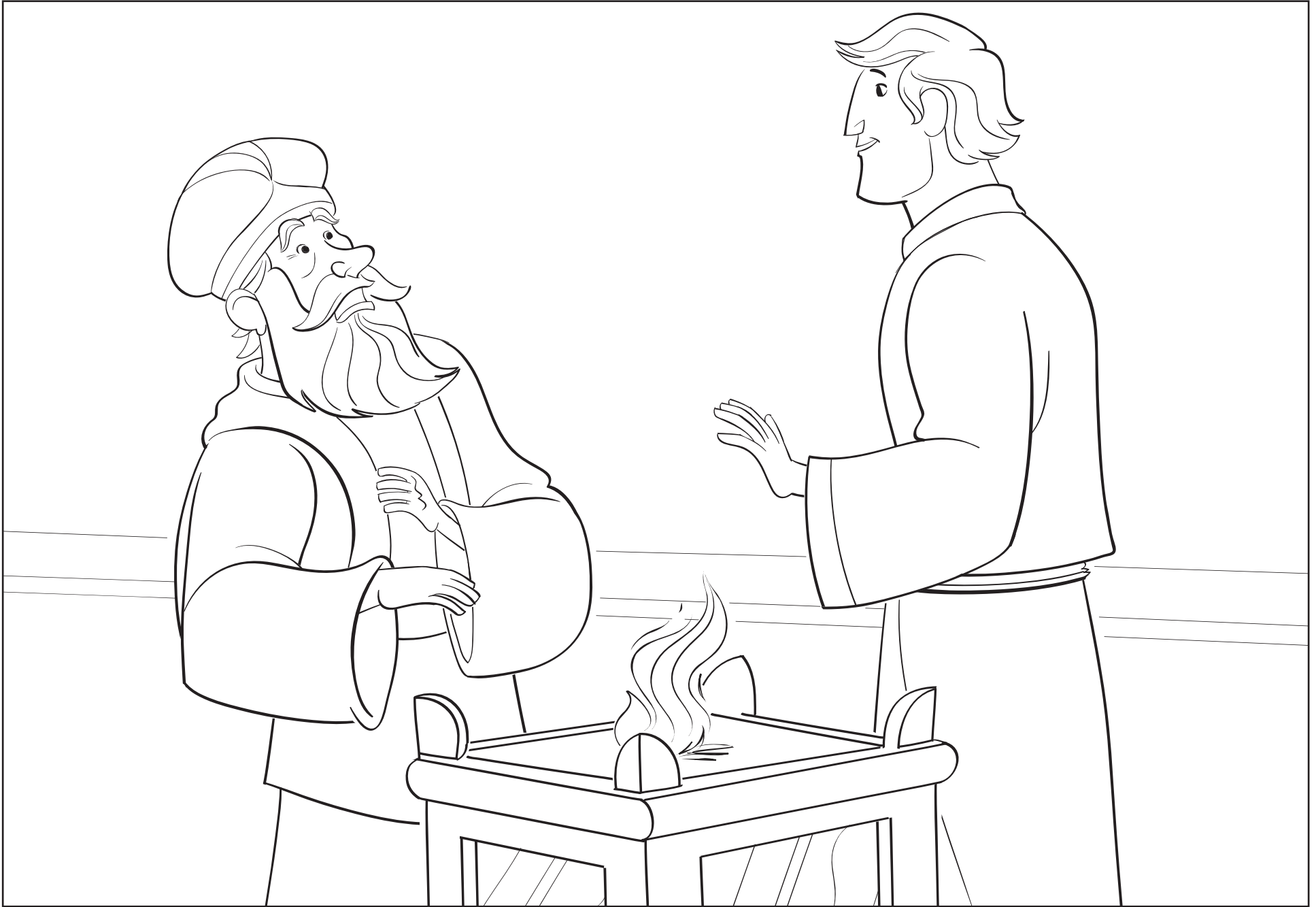
- Why did Zechariah not believe the angel at first?
- What special job would John have?
- What did Zechariah do when he could speak again?
- What are some ways we can praise God for sending Jesus?

FAMILY ACTIVITY:

- Read Isaiah 40:3 and Malachi 3:1; 4:5-6 as a family. Talk about how Isaiah and Malachi wrote these words long before John was born.
- Speak a blessing over your children by name. Pray that God would use them to advance His kingdom and prepare the world for Jesus' return.



DOWNLOAD the
LIFEWAY KIDS APP



Baby or Maybe

INSTRUCTIONS: Circle items needed to care for a baby. Draw boxes around items that are helpful, but not necessary.



BIBLE STORY SUMMARY:

- Zechariah and Elizabeth were too old to have children.
- God sent an angel to tell Zechariah that Elizabeth would have a son.
- Zechariah did not believe at first.
- John was born to prepare the way for Jesus.

KEY PASSAGE: John 1:1-2

BIG PICTURE QUESTION:

- Is Jesus God or a human? As the Son of God, Jesus is both fully God and fully human.

FAMILY DISCUSSION STARTERS:

- Which prophet said that a messenger would prepare the way for the Messiah? (*See Mal. 3:1.*)
- What ways can you help prepare people to meet Jesus?
- How can we learn to trust God right away?

FAMILY ACTIVITY:

- Plan one-on-one time with each of your kids. Take them somewhere fun and tell them about how they became a part of your family. Were any parts of their adoptions or births a bit scary? What part of each arrival was most exciting?



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Unit 19, Session 2

John Was Born

Luke 1

Story Point: John was born to prepare the way for Jesus.

Zechariah and his wife, Elizabeth, did what was right. Twice a year, Zechariah went to the temple in Jerusalem to carry out his duties as a priest. One day, Zechariah was chosen to go into the sanctuary of the Lord and burn incense. Suddenly, an angel of the Lord appeared. Zechariah was terrified!

“Do not be afraid, Zechariah,” the angel said. “God heard your prayer. Your wife will have a son, and you will name him John.” The angel said that John would help many people turn back to God. John would go ahead of the Lord and get people ready for His coming. Zechariah asked the angel, “How can I know this will happen?”

The angel said, “God sent me to tell you this good news. Because you did not believe my words, you won’t be able to speak until these things happen.”

Zechariah left the temple. The people

outside realized he had seen a vision and could not talk. Zechariah went home to Elizabeth. In time, she became pregnant and gave birth to a son.

Zechariah and Elizabeth named their son John. Suddenly, Zechariah could speak again. The Holy Spirit filled John. Zechariah praised God and told the people God’s words: “God has come to help His people. He will save us through David’s family. He will rescue us from our enemies.”

John grew up and lived in the wilderness until God called him to get the people ready for Jesus.

Christ Connection: When Zechariah believed God’s word, he praised God. John was born to prepare the way for Jesus. John would point people to Jesus, and they would praise God for keeping His promise to send the Savior.



EXPERIENCE the Story

The Bible tells us what is true about God and about ourselves. All of the stories in the Bible fit together to tell us the big story of how God rescues sinners through His Son, Jesus.

- Fill in the blanks with these words: *angel, Elizabeth, God, Jerusalem, John, prayer, priest, ready, son, temple, terrified, wilderness.*

Twice a year, Zechariah went to the _____ in _____ to carry out his duties as a _____. Zechariah went inside the sanctuary. Suddenly, an _____ of the Lord appeared. Zechariah was _____! The angel said, “God heard your _____. Your wife will have a _____, and you will name him _____. The angel said that John would help many people turn back to _____. John would go ahead of the Lord and get people _____ for His coming. Zechariah’s wife, _____, gave birth to a son. John grew up and lived in the _____ until God called him to get the people ready for Jesus.

- What does this story teach us about God?

- What part did John play in God’s plan?

CHRIST CONNECTION

When Zechariah believed God’s word, he praised God. John was born to prepare the way for Jesus. John would point people to Jesus, and they would praise God for keeping His promise to send the Savior.



APPLY the Story

- Find John 1:1-2 in your Bible and write the words below.

- Write a prayer to God, praising God for the Bible and asking Him to help you trust His Word.

READ THE WORD

Read one of the following passages each day this week:

- | | |
|---|--|
| <input type="checkbox"/> Luke 1:67-68 | <input type="checkbox"/> Ephesians 2:8-9 |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Exodus 34:6 | <input type="checkbox"/> Joel 2:13 |
| <input type="checkbox"/> 1 Peter 4:7-11 | <input type="checkbox"/> Psalm 116:5-9 |

Journal Page



- What does this story teach me about God or the gospel?
- What does this story teach me about myself?
- Are there any commands in this story to obey? How are they for God's glory and my good?
- Are there any promises in this story to remember? How do they help me trust and love God?
- How does this story help me to live on mission better?

FAMILY DISCUSSION STARTERS

- Do you ever doubt God's goodness toward you? Why?
- Where can we find God's messages for His people?
- Why is it important to obey God by faith?

John Was Born

Luke 1

STORY POINT: JOHN WAS BORN TO PREPARE THE WAY FOR JESUS.

Twice a year, Zechariah went to the temple in Jerusalem to carry out his duties as a priest. One day, Zechariah was chosen to go into the sanctuary of the Lord and burn incense. Suddenly, an angel of the Lord appeared. Zechariah was terrified! "Do not be afraid, Zechariah," the angel said. "God heard your prayer. Your wife, Elizabeth, will have a son, and you will name him John." The angel said that John would help many people turn back to God. John would go ahead of the Lord and get people ready for His coming. Zechariah asked the angel, "How can I know this will happen?"

The angel said, "God sent me to tell you this good news. Because you did not believe my words, you won't be able to speak until these things happen."

Zechariah left the temple. The people outside realized he had seen a vision and could not talk. Zechariah went home to Elizabeth. In time, she became pregnant and gave birth to a son. Zechariah and Elizabeth named their son John. Suddenly, Zechariah could speak again. The Holy Spirit filled John. Zechariah praised God and told the people God's words: "God has come to help His people. He will save us through David's family. He will rescue us from our enemies."

John grew up and lived in the wilderness until God called him to get the people ready for Jesus.

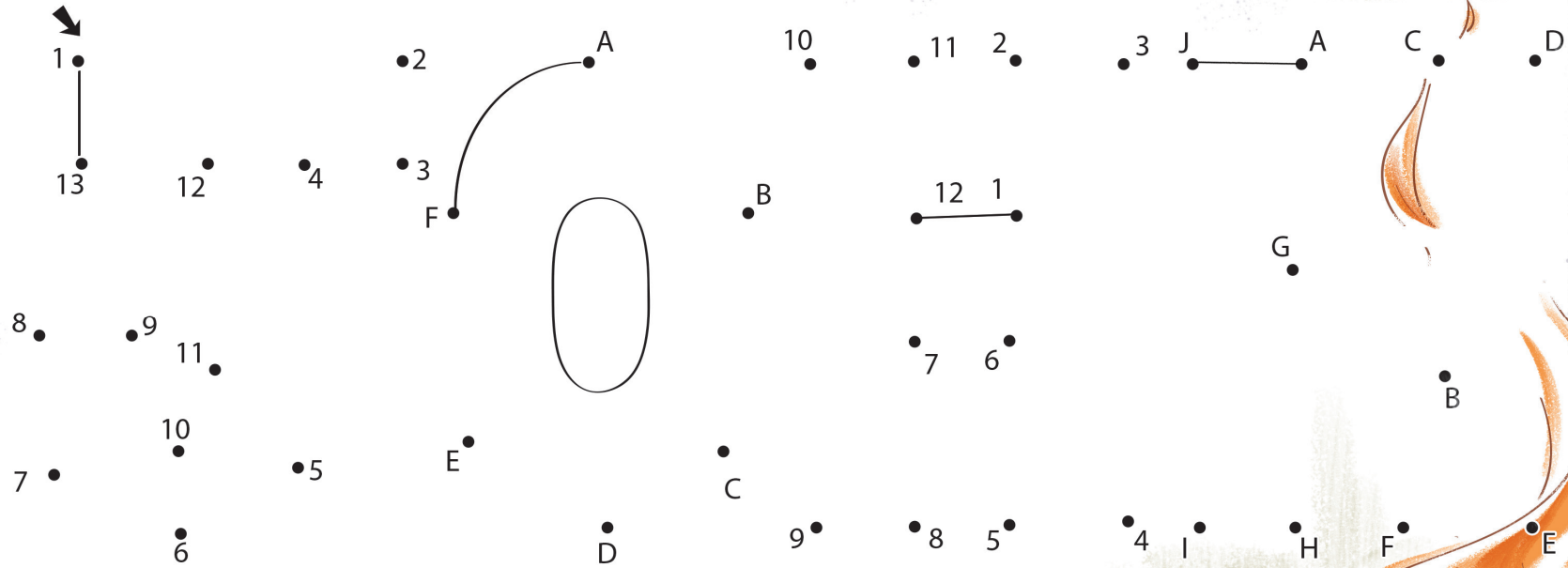
Christ Connection: When Zechariah believed God's word, he praised God. John was born to prepare the way for Jesus. John would point people to Jesus, and they would praise God for keeping His promise to send the Savior.



FOLD

His Name Is ...

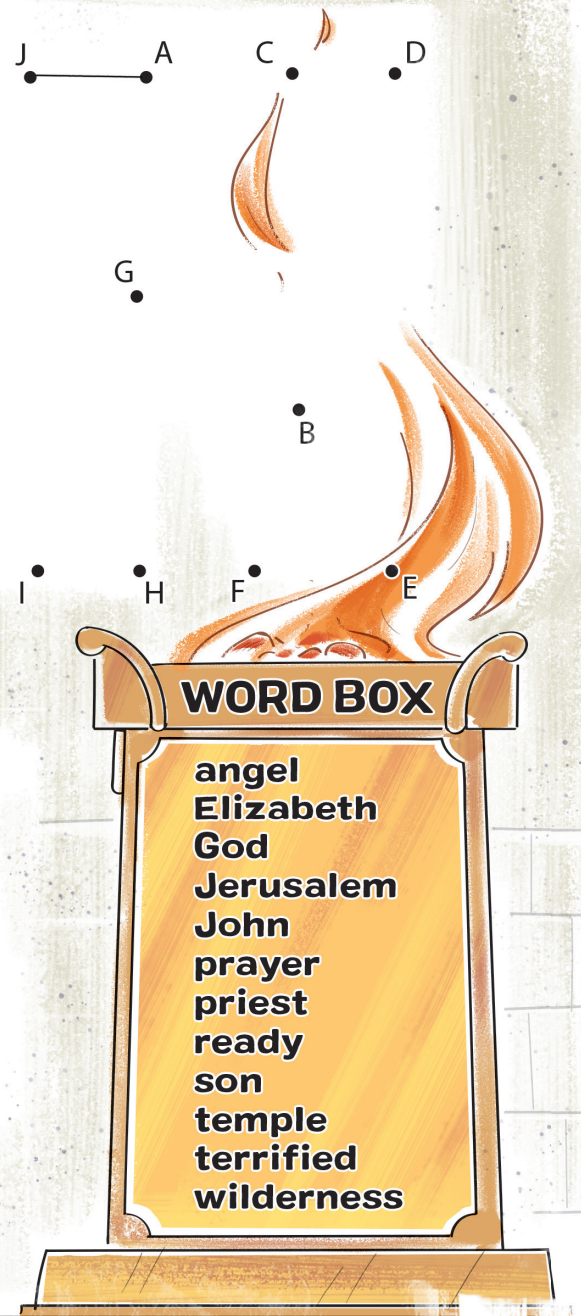
Complete the four dot-to-dots to discover the name of Zechariah's son.



Missing Words

Fill in the blanks with words from the word box.

- Twice a year, Zechariah went to the _____ in _____ to carry out his duties as a _____.
- Zechariah went inside the sanctuary. Suddenly, an _____ of the Lord appeared. Zechariah was _____!
- The angel said, "God heard your _____. Your wife will have a _____, and you will name him _____.
- The angel said that John would help many people turn back to _____. John would go ahead of the Lord and get people _____ for His coming.
- Zechariah's wife, _____, gave birth to a son. John grew up and lived in the _____ until God called him to get the people ready for Jesus.





WEEK 6 DAY 4 John the Baptist Was Born

Step 1: Read

[Luke 1:57-66](#)

Step 2: Discuss (see curriculum notes below to help guide these questions)

1. What did Zechariah do after his son was born? Prompt kids to recall that Zechariah named the baby John, just as the angel commanded. Then he was able to speak, and he prophesied about John, saying he would go before the Lord and get people ready for Him. (Option: Choose a volunteer to read Luke 1:76-68.)
2. The name John means “the Lord is gracious.” Where do you see God’s grace in the Bible story or in your own life? Encourage kids to give examples. Help them recognize God’s grace in giving a son to Zechariah and Elizabeth. Guide them to consider undeserved favor in their lives, especially the gracious gift of salvation through Jesus.
3. What did their neighbors observe, and what did it make them wonder?

Step 3: Sing Together

Every Move I Make: <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=Dgf1YzscBIE>

Step 4: Review

- *Story point:* John was born to prepare the way for Jesus.
- *Memory verse:* [John 1:1-2](#) “In the beginning was the Word, and the Word was with God, and the Word was God. He was in the beginning with God.”
- *Big picture question:* Is Jesus God or human? As the Son of God, Jesus is both fully God and fully human.

Step 5: Pray

Ask for everyone to share a prayer request and something they want to thank the Lord for, and then take turns praying out loud.

Curriculum Notes:

Zechariah did not believe the angel Gabriel at first. Zechariah knew that he and his wife were too old to have children. However, one wonderful thing about God is that He has power over all things. Nothing can stop His plans, and He often does things no one else could do to prove His power and love. Despite their old age, Zechariah and Elizabeth had a baby just as God promised. God is faithful, and all His promises come true. John was filled with the power of the Holy Spirit even as a baby! God had plans for John, and John’s birth was like a small glimpse at the birth of the Messiah still to come. John was born to prepare the way for Jesus.



WEEK 6 DAY 5 John the Baptist Was Born

Step 1: Read

[Luke 1:67-80](#)

Step 2: Discuss

1. How did Zechariah respond when his voice returned to him?
2. When is it easy to praise God? When is it hard to?
3. What are some ways God can use you to point others toward Jesus?
4. Where did John live while he was growing up?

Step 3: Sing Together

Waymaker: <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=BfdOP8139i4>

Step 4: Review

- *Story point:* John was born to prepare the way for Jesus.
- *Memory verse:* [John 1:1-2](#) “In the beginning was the Word, and the Word was with God, and the Word was God. He was in the beginning with God.”
- *Big picture question:* Is Jesus God or human? As the Son of God, Jesus is both fully God and fully human.

Step 5: Pray

Ask for everyone to share a prayer request and something they want to thank the Lord for, and then take turns praying out loud.

Curriculum Notes:

Encourage kids to think about their friends and family members who may not love Jesus. Discuss ways to show them God’s love and share the gospel with them. Remind kids that even people who know and love Jesus need to be pointed to Jesus to help them remember how good He is. Discuss with the kids how difficult times can make it hard to trust God, but they can also push us toward the Lord as we learn to rely on Him for support. Remind kids that the Bible teaches we should praise God in good times and difficult times.

God’s people hadn’t heard from God for 400 years, but God didn’t forget His plan to save people from their sin. Zechariah believed God’s word, and he praised God. John was born to prepare the way for Jesus. John would point people to Jesus, and they would praise God for keeping His promise to send the Savior. Ultimately, Jesus died on the cross and rose again to glorify God and make the way for us to be saved to glorify God as well.