



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

- What did Zechariah do after his son was born?

- The name *John* means “the Lord is gracious.” Where do you see God’s grace in the Bible story or in your own life?

- How can we get people ready for Jesus’ return?

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 |