

The Birth of John The Baptist

Luke 1:1-24; 59-end

Grades 1-3

Large Group (Where we all meet together and introduce the lesson)

Materials needed - Computer, projector and screen

- Greet all the kids as they come in. Ask them how they are doing, and chat with them about their week. Pray together, ask anyone if they have any prayer requests.

- Our memory verse for the month is Matthew 28:19, Therefore go and make disciples of all nations baptizing them in the name of the Father and of the Son and of the Holy Spirit.

- Play this video while singing along. <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=ZuVMm3EKsSs>

Ask the kids

- What is the best promise someone has ever made to you?

- What is the best promise you have ever made?

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=hJXrSRxSX-Y>

Break up into small groups

Review The Story (a chance to review the bible passage with the small group)

Materials needed - Story sheet

- Greet everyone in your small group, make sure everyone knows each others names. Say a prayer together either by repeating after one of the teachers or just letting them pray.

Read [this](#) story with the kids.

- After you have finished reading, let the kids colour in the page.

- As they are colouring, walk around and ask the kids the following questions

- Who is this? (point to Zechariah)

- What did the angel say to Zechariah?

- Did Zechariah believe the angel?

- What did Zechariah call his baby?

Play true or false

- Zechariah worked as a pizza maker. (false)
- Elisabeth was old and lots of people made fun of her because she didn't have any kids. (true)
- Zechariah saw an angel. (true)
- The angel's name was John. (false)
- Zechariah didn't believe the angel and so he couldn't speak until the baby was born. (true)
- Zechariah and Elisabeth named their baby John. (true)
- John was Jesus' cousin. (true)

Play charades with the kids.

- Cut out the Zechariah charades page and fold up all the little pieces of paper
- Take turns letting one of the kids pick out a piece of paper and try to act out what is written on the paper. (they can't say a word or make any sounds).
- Once all the papers have been chosen and acted out ask the kids to put the papers in story order.

Life Application (an opportunity for kids to apply the lesson to their own lives)

Materials needed -

Talk about promises with the kids

- Ask the kids if they can think of a time when someone made a promise and then didn't keep their promise. How did it make them feel?
- Then ask them if they can think of a time when someone did keep their promise.
- Tell the kids a story from your own life when someone kept a promise.
- Ask the kids who always keeps their promises no matter what? (the answer is God)
- Talk about the promise God made was starting to come true with John being born.

Chant God keeps his promises

- Ask the kids to do various activities while chanting "God Keeps His Promises".
- They can jump up and down, pretend to ride a bicycle, stand on one foot, pretend to swim etc.

Memory Verse (a way to introduce and reinforce this months memory verse)

Materials needed - memory verse sheets,

Read through the memory verse with the kids

- As a group make up different actions for the verse.

