

Light Show: Let the Christmas celebration begin



First, watch
this week's
video!

Christmas:
Celebrating
Jesus, God's
greatest gift

Memory Verse

"God so loved the world that he gave his one and only Son. Anyone who believes in him will not die but will have eternal life."

John 3:16, NIV

Bible Story
Elizabeth &
Zechariah
Luke 1:5-25, 57-66

Key Question
What are some
things you
celebrate?

Activity

Story Scramble

What You Need:

Scissors, printer OR paper and pencil, bowl or jar, timer

What You Do:

Print out (or write out) the following scenes of the Bible story. Cut them into separate pieces of paper. Mix them up and put them in a bowl or jar. Time your child and see how quickly they can put the scenes in the correct order of when they occurred and retell the story. If they struggle with certain areas, open your Bible to Luke 1:5-25, 57-66 and reread the story together.

Story scenes:

- ▶ Zechariah was chosen to enter the temple while the other priests waited outside.
- ▶ An angel appeared and told Zechariah that he and Elizabeth would have a son. Zechariah asked how he could be sure.
- ▶ The angel said that because Zechariah didn't believe his words, he wouldn't be able to speak until after his son, John, was born.
- ▶ When Zechariah came out of the temple, he couldn't speak. The priests knew that he had seen a special message from God.
- ▶ Elizabeth gave birth to a son.
- ▶ In keeping with tradition, friends and relatives wanted to name the baby Zechariah, but Elizabeth said he must be called John.
- ▶ Zechariah wrote, "His name is John." Immediately, Zechariah could speak again.

Talk About the Bible Story

What did the angel tell Zechariah? (*That Elizabeth would have a baby*)

Why did that sound impossible? (*Zechariah and Elizabeth were very old*)

Why couldn't Zechariah talk after he spoke with the angel? (*Because he didn't believe what the angel was telling him*)

Why did people think the baby should be named Zechariah? (*It was normal in that culture was to name babies after a family member. Zechariah or Elizabeth did not have a relative named John.*)

Why was Zechariah and Elizabeth's story an important part of the Christmas story? (*Their son John was Jesus' cousin; he would play an important role in introducing Jesus to the world.*)

What are some "impossible" things that God has done? (*Examples can be from the Bible—such as creating the whole world from nothing, parting the Red Sea, Jesus coming back to life, etc.—or from your own lives.*)

Parent: Share about a time when things didn't go the way you thought they should, but you were able to see how God was working in the situation. Were you able to celebrate God's "version" of the story?

Prayer

Use this prayer as a guide, either after talking about the Bible story or sometime before bed tonight:

"Dear God, I praise You because You can do ANYTHING. You are AMAZING and WONDERFUL and POWERFUL, and we love You SO much. This week, help us remember and CELEBRATE that You can do anything. Amen."

