



# ZECHARIAH LOSES HIS VOICE

Lesson 1

### BIG IDEA

God keeps all His promises.  
We must believe what He says.

### KEY VERSES

Luke 1:11-20

### MEMORY VERSE

Luke 1:13

“But the angel said to him: ‘Do not be afraid, Zacharias; your prayer has been heard. Your wife Elizabeth will bear you a son, and you are to call him John.’”

## • PREPARATION & MATERIALS •

### BIBLE LESSON

- Bible
- Lesson Script

### GAME

- A object to toss (such as a ball, beanbag or shoe)

### CRAFT

- Colored cardstock pre-cut in 3x5 inch rectangles
- Colored lanyard, shoe lace or other sturdy string pre-cut in 24 inch lengths
- Stickers, markers, glitter pens, etc.
- Permanent black markers
- Pony beads (optional)

### WORKSHEETS

- Photocopies of Coloring Sheet (1 per child)
- Photocopies of Word Search (domestic communities only)
- Photocopies of Crossword Puzzle (domestic communities only)





# ZECHARIAH LOSES HIS VOICE

BIBLE LESSON • INTERACTIVE

lesson 1

Have you ever experienced times in your lives when you thought that your problems were hopeless, and God seems far away? Well that was the way it was over 2000 years ago, in the days of Zechariah and Elizabeth. The Jewish people were looking for and expecting the Messiah [Jesus]. In fact they had not heard from God for over 400 years. That is a long time to wait, right?

Zechariah and Elizabeth had no children and in the Jewish culture if you had no children, it meant that God did not bless you. They had prayed and asked God to give them a child for many years, and now that they were old they had even stopped asking God for a child, because it seemed impossible. But Zechariah and Elizabeth were good people and they obeyed God's word and they were faithful to serve God.

One day, while Zechariah was in the Temple doing his duty as priest, God sent the angel Gabriel to give Zechariah a message. The angel frightened him. Zechariah knew that God's Angels are holy and mighty.

Gabriel told Zechariah that God had heard his Prayer. After all, God hears all prayers of every person everywhere. He said, "Your wife will have a child and you will name him John. He will be a joy to you and he will make many people happy. He will be great in the sight of the Lord and He will be different from other people. He will be filled with the spirit even from as a little baby."

Gabriel said that John would lead many people back to the Lord and that he would prepare the way of the Lord. But Zechariah did not believe Gabriel, he said, "How can I be sure of this? My wife and I are very old."

Q Do you think that was a very good idea, to doubt an angel from the Lord? (NO)

The angel answered, "I am Gabriel who stands in the presence of God! I come and tell you good news and you don't believe me. Because of this you will not be able to speak until the day the baby is born."

Remember, Zechariah was in the temple doing important work as priest. There were lots of people outside the temple wondering what was taking him so long. They were starting to get worried. When Zechariah finally came out he couldn't talk to his friends at all.

Q How do you think Zechariah might have explained what happened to him if he couldn't use his voice? (receive answers from kids until someone mentions HAND MOTIONS)

Q Yes, he made hand motions. What do you think it might have looked like? Who wants to come show us how you might tell your friends that you'd seen an angel? (let several kids come give examples)

Q Does anybody know what happened about 9 months later? (THEY HAD A BABY) Yes, Zechariah and Elizabeth had a baby boy. The friends and family expected them to name the baby Zechariah, after his father.

Q Was that the name the angel told them to give the baby? (NO)



# ZECHARIAH LOSES HIS VOICE

BIBLE LESSON • INTERACTIVE (CONT.)

lesson 1

Elizabeth told the people, “No, his name is going to be John.”  
“You can’t name him John. Nobody in your family is named John!” they said.

Then Zechariah took a writing tablet and surprised everyone by writing, “His name is John.”  
At that exact moment another miracle took place. Zechariah got his voice back. He immediately began to sing praise to the Lord.

Kids we can learn some important lessons from the Story of Zechariah. We may think that God has forgotten us, or he does not listen our prayers. But God always keeps his promises and will answer our prayers at the right time according to his will.

- Q We need to be faithful and do what He wants us to do. And we need to believe what he says to us. Does God usually send angels to us these days? (NO) Where do we find out what God says to us? (THE BIBLE)

Reproducible curriculum produced and written by Kids Clubs 4 Jesus. Adapted visually and/or translated for use on short term mission trips by Experience Mission.

## DISCUSSION QUESTIONS

1. Where is this story located in the Bible?
2. What were Zacharias and Elizabeth asking God to do for them?
3. How did Zacharias feel when the angel first appeared?
4. What did the angel tell Zacharias?
5. What was the angel’s name?
6. Did Zacharias believe the angel at first?
7. What did the angel do to Zacharias?
8. Was Elizabeth older or younger when she had a child?
9. What Gabriel said about the child, did it come true?
10. What is the name of the child in this story?

### SIMPLIFIED LESSON OPTIONS

- Tell the account of Zechariah in simple story form or skit form with a narrator, Zechariah and Elizabeth.
- Ask 3-4 of the simpler discussion questions.



# ZECHARIAH LOSES HIS VOICE

CRAFT & GAME

Lesson 1

## • CRAFT •

### OBJECTIVE: NAME TAGS

Kids will make name tags that can be used throughout the summer.

### MATERIALS PROVIDED BY EM

- Scissors, staplers, rulers, hole punches

### DIRECTIONS

- Write child's name in bold letters on both sides of the card
- Allow children to decorate the tags
- Punch a hole in the top right and left corner of the tag
- Place a few pony beads on each end of the lace or string (optional)
- Tie each end of the lace or string securely to the tag through the holes

### MATERIALS BROUGHT BY TEAM

- Colored cardstock, pre-cut in 3x5 in. rectangles
- Colored lanyard, shoelaces or other sturdy string, pre-cut in 24 in. lengths
- Stickers, markers, glitter pens, etc. (to decorate with)
- Permanent black markers
- Pony beads (optional)

### SIMPLIFIED CRAFT OPTIONS

- Use lanyard or waxed beading string for easy beading
- Use lots of stickers rather than markers or glitter pens
- Use colored straws cut into small pieces instead of beads

## • GAME •

### OBJECTIVE: THE NAME GAME

A fun and interactive game for kids and teams to get to know one another's names.

### MATERIALS BROUGHT BY TEAM

- A object to toss (such as a ball, beanbag or shoe)

### INSTRUCTIONS

- Players form a circle.
- The first round, the facilitator gives one player the object and tells them to throw it to a player at another point in the circle and, while they throw it, say that players' name (tell them it's okay to ask what other peoples' names are).
- That player then throws it to someone else, saying their name. This process continues until everyone has had it thrown to them, at which time it comes back to the original thrower.
- After this first round, players are challenged to go as fast as they can. The facilitator, or some other designated player, times the players to see how long it takes them to complete the circuit.

Upon finishing, the facilitator challenges them to be able to do it in X amount of time. (usually a few seconds short or what they completed it in). The facilitator can ask the group if they have any ideas for how to make it go faster.

### SIMPLIFIED GAME OPTIONS

- Kids yell their own name when they throw the object
- If the group size is large divide the kids into groups of 10-15



# ZECHARIAH LOSES HIS VOICE

Lesson 1





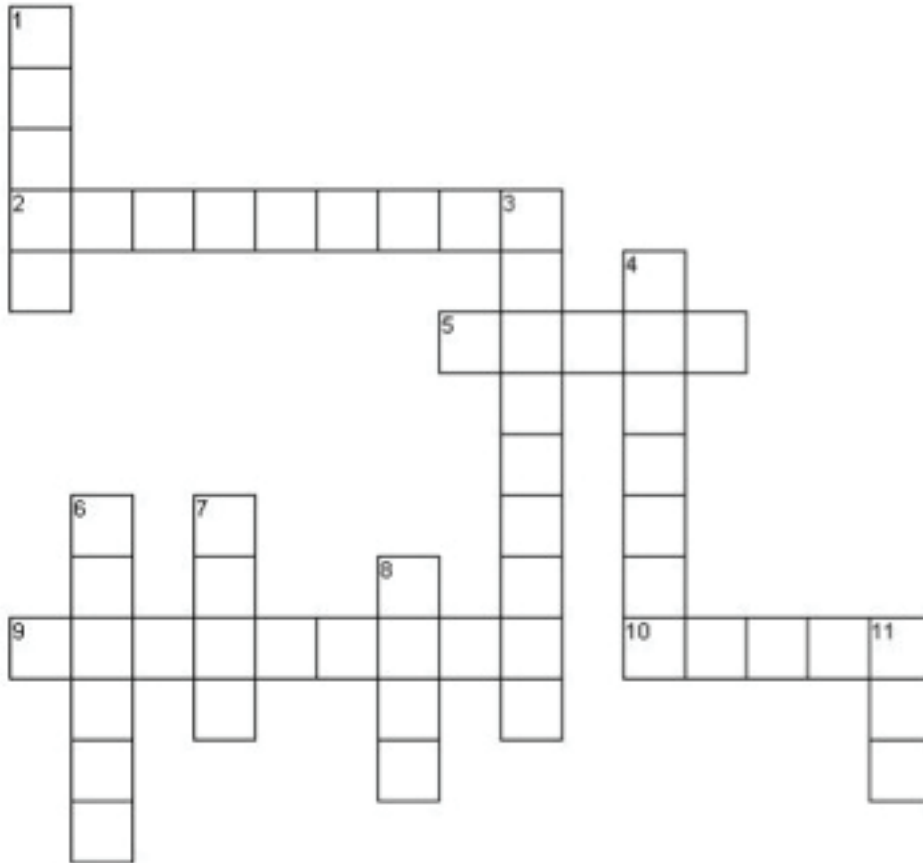
# WORD SEARCH

H	K	Q	G	S	Y	D	L	C	R	A	A	A	J	B	V	X	E
E	I	P	Z	V	P	R	O	X	E	W	A	U	H	Y	W	H	L
Q	L	X	G	H	E	I	R	L	J	C	L	B	A	W	F	O	I
P	B	I	L	V	O	N	D	O	O	G	T	C	S	I	U	L	S
Y	K	D	A	V	P	K	R	R	I	E	A	U	S	N	L	Y	A
F	K	C	D	S	L	V	Q	I	C	S	R	G	W	E	F	G	B
G	V	E	N	L	E	A	W	R	E	P	F	M	V	Y	I	H	E
U	V	K	E	Z	A	C	H	A	R	I	A	S	G	Y	L	O	T
S	O	N	S	Z	L	P	Z	A	N	G	E	L	F	R	L	S	H
I	B	C	S	M	C	D	R	W	J	O	H	N	E	Z	E	T	V
V	W	I	G	T	X	C	O	A	I	Q	Q	C	A	W	D	A	E
V	K	D	R	J	C	R	Z	P	Y	F	D	C	Y	L	J	Z	T
Q	N	I	Q	T	E	Y	H	M	R	E	E	B	K	W	X	W	K
F	K	A	W	A	H	A	P	P	E	A	R	E	D	P	G	N	A

appeared	prayer	rejoice	holyghost
angel	Elisabeth	birth	Elias
lord	son	great	people
altar	John	drink	wife
Zacharias	gladness	wine	fulfilled



# CROSSWORD PUZZLE



## ACROSS

- 2. Zacharias' wife.
- 5. Place of sacrifice.
- 9. Struck dumb for disbelief.
- 10. Elijah.

## DOWN

- 1. Messenger of God.
- 3. Third person of the Trinity.
- 4. Celebrate, glory.
- 6. Sharing your heart with God.
- 7. \_\_\_\_\_ the Baptist.
- 8. Female marriage partner.
- 11. Male offspring.