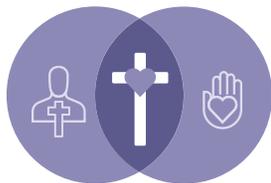


SILENCE BEFORE A SON

LESSON 2

Luke 1:5–25, 57–66

GOD SENT JOHN AS HIS MESSENGER.



CONNECTING IDENTITY & CALLING

IDENTITY: WHO AM I?

God sends His messengers to His people, and they bring His Word to all humankind.

CALLING: WHY AM I HERE?

I can trust the promises given by God's messengers.

GROWING IN FAITH FOR LIFE

See how this lesson builds on previous learning for each age.

ADULT

I can describe how the events surrounding John the Baptist's birth relate to key Old Testament themes and promises of God.

YOUTH

I can show how John was God's promised messenger who pointed to Jesus.

ELEMENTARY

I understand that God sent John as His messenger.

EARLY CHILDHOOD

I know God sent John to get people ready for Jesus.

BIBLE VERSE

Blessed be the Lord God of Israel, for He has visited and redeemed His people.

Luke 1:68

SCRIPTURE SNAPSHOT

Doubting the angel's announcement of his coming son, Zechariah finds himself silenced until the boy's birth. Upon writing, "His name is John," Zechariah regains his voice and prophecies concerning his son's work.

TAKING IT HOME

- ▶ *On the Go*—Why were people so surprised that Zechariah and Elizabeth wanted to give their son the name *John*? Who gave the child this name?
- ▶ *At Mealtime*—When was Zechariah able to start speaking again? What did he say when he was able to talk? What special job did Zechariah say John would have?
- ▶ *Something to Do*—God chose a special name for John, just as He chose a special name for Jesus. Working with friends or family, write down all the names for Jesus that you can think of. Have each person talk about which name is his or her favorite and why.
- ▶ *Before Bed*—How has God "visited and redeemed His people"? What wonderful message would John preach before Jesus began His ministry "to prepare His ways" (Luke 1:76)?

