



Beginnings II

LESSON 4 - DAY 1

God: His Messengers



BIBLE WORDS TO REMEMBER

And He will be called Wonderful, Counselor, Mighty God, Everlasting Father, Prince of Peace. (from Isaiah 9:6)

Bible Story: AN ANGEL VISIT

from Luke 1

God loved His people and He promised to send a Savior to save people from their sins. By believing this promise and loving Jesus we will live **forever** in heaven with God!

Many years had passed since God first gave this wonderful promise. Many people forgot about God—they chose not to remember. They started worshiping other gods and idols. The Romans took over the land that God had given to the Israelites. God's people were not free.

But not everyone forgot God. A **priest** named Zacharias remembered God's promise. He and his wife, Elizabeth, prayed every day that God's promise would come true. They followed God's commandments. They prayed that someday they could have a child who loved and served the Lord.

One day, while Zacharias was worshiping God at the **temple**, a voice spoke to him. It was an **angel** talking to him! The angel said, "Don't be afraid. God has heard your prayer. You will have a very special child. His name will be John. He will tell people what they must do to be ready for the Savior to come."

WORDS TO KNOW

- forever:** a time that never ends
- priest:** a special person in charge of worship
- temple:** a place where people worshiped God
- angel:** a heavenly being who worships and serves God

THINK ABOUT

Angels bring special messages from God to people. They take care of us and watch over us. They sometimes show us what to do or where to go. They sometimes even get us out of trouble. Isn't God wonderful to have such special messengers?



Questions: THINKING & REMEMBERING

Fill in the blanks or circle the letters of all that are right.

1. What was God's promise to His people?
 - a. He would get rid of the Romans.
 - b. He would make their life easy.
 - c. He would send a Savior.

2. What do people need to do so they can live forever in heaven?

By _____ this _____ and loving _____ we can live forever in heaven.

3. What did some of the people do instead of following God?
 - a. They worshiped other gods and idols.
 - b. They celebrated and had parties.
 - c. They wanted God to make the rules easier.

4. What happened when they forgot God?
 - a. They had rulers who did not love God.
 - b. They were not free—they became slaves.
 - c. They didn't have to worry about pleasing God.

5. Who remembered God's promise?

_____ Zacharias _____ Jezebel _____ Elizabeth

6. What did Zacharias and his wife pray and ask God for?

7. What did the angel say to Zacharias when he was at the temple?

"Don't be _____. God has heard your _____."

8. What did the angel say their son's name would be? _____

9. What would John do?

He would tell people what they must do to get ready for the Savior to come.
Is this right _____ or wrong _____?



BIBLE WORDS TO REMEMBER

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Bible Story: THE SPECIAL NEWS

from Luke 1

Do you remember what the angel told Zacharias? Zacharias and his wife were going to have a baby boy! His name would be John and he would be the special one that would tell the people that the Savior was coming.

Zacharias listened to the angel tell him this news but couldn't believe it! They had prayed for a child, but now they were very old. Zacharias asked, "How can I know that what you are telling me is true? This cannot be possible!"

The angel spoke to Zacharias again. "I am Gabriel, who stands in the **presence** of God, and was sent to speak to you and bring you these glad **tidings**. Because you did not believe my words, you will not be able to speak until after the child is born."

When Zacharias came out of the temple, he could not speak—just as the angel had told him. All the people around him wondered what had happened. They thought that maybe he had seen a **vision**—but Zacharias knew why he was silent. He had not believed that God could do what was impossible for man. With God, all things are possible!

WORDS TO KNOW

presence: to be close to
tidings: news or message
vision: dream

PRAYER THOUGHT



Dear Heavenly Father, I know that you have planned everything and that you will always love me and be with me. Help me to trust you every day and show others that I have confidence in Your love and that nothing is impossible with You. Amen.



Questions: THINKING & REMEMBERING

Fill in the blanks or circle the letters of all that are right.

1. Why didn't Zacharias believe what the angel told him?
 - a. He was shocked.
 - b. He and his wife were old.
 - c. He thought that it would be hard to take care of a baby.
2. What question did Zacharias ask the angel?
 - a. Did God really send you to give me a message?
 - b. How am I to tell my wife Elizabeth?
 - c. How can I know that what you are telling me is true?
3. What else did Zacharias say to the angel?
This cannot be _____.
4. What happened when Zacharias did not believe the angel's message?
 - a. The angel repeated the message so he would understand.
 - b. He could not speak.
 - c. He sat down to rest.
5. How long would Zacharias have this condition?
 - a. until the baby was born
 - b. until he told his wife
 - c. until he told the people
6. What did the people think had happened to Zacharias?
They thought he had seen a _____.
7. Did Zacharias know and understand why he was silent? _____
8. Finish this verse from the Bible:
With God all things are _____ . (Matthew 19:26)

THINK ABOUT

When God is part of your thoughts and plans, you can know that He will make your dreams for good things that please Him happen. Begin your day by thinking of wonderful possibilities—think of ways to be helpful and to show God's love to others.



BIBLE WORDS TO REMEMBER

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Bible Story: A MESSENGER IS BORN

from Luke 1

What the angel said came true. That is because the words the angel spoke were from God. God only says what is true. He always keeps His promises. A son was born to Zacharias and Elizabeth. They were very happy that God had given them this special son. All of their friends and family **celebrated** with them on the birthday of their son.

It was time to choose a name for the new baby. Everyone thought that the baby would have the same name as his father. They thought that "Zacharias" was the perfect name for the special baby that was born to old parents. This baby was not just an **ordinary** baby!

Zacharias had not spoken one word for many months, since the visit of the angel in the temple. Zacharias wrote the name that the angel had told him for the baby boy. His name is JOHN.

Everyone was surprised. And they were even more surprised when Zacharias started speaking aloud. He was praising God for remembering His people. As the people listened, they started to wonder what kind of a child JOHN would be. They would find out very soon.

WORDS TO KNOW

celebrated: to have a happy party when something special has happened

ordinary: just like everyone else

PRAYER THOUGHT



Dear God, Your plan is so perfect and wonderful! The promises You make are never forgotten! Help me to remember that whatever You say, You will do. In Jesus Name, Amen.



Questions: THINKING & REMEMBERING

Fill in the blanks or circle the letters of all that are right.

1. What can we always know about God?
 - a. His words are true.
 - b. He keeps His promises.
 - c. He changes His mind.
2. What name did the family and friends of Zacharias think the baby should have? his _____ name, Zacharias
3. Why was this baby not an ordinary baby?
 - a. His parents were too old to have children.
 - b. God planned for this baby to be born for a special purpose.
 - c. He had a different name than his father had.
4. How did Zacharias let everyone know what the baby's name should be?
 - a. He could suddenly talk and he shouted the name.
 - b. He told his wife in another room.
 - c. He wrote it—JOHN.
5. What happened next for Zacharias?
 - a. He ate his dinner.
 - b. He could speak.
 - c. He held the baby.
6. What did Zacharias do?
 - a. He praised God for remembering His people.
 - b. He said how cute the baby was.
 - c. He asked what they were going to eat.

THINK ABOUT

God is awesome! He is always ready to show His love to you whenever you need Him—and whenever you ask Him. He is like a warm blanket wrapped around you to keep you safe and secure. Remember to pray. God hears the words you say to Him—even if you whisper!



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Bible Story: ZACHARIAS SEES THE FUTURE

from Luke 1

Zacharias knew what kind of a child John would be. God told him that the Savior was coming, and how John, his son, would get people ready for Him. Zacharias said, "God will send a Savior who will come from the family of David. God loves us and will forgive us for turning away from Him. He will not forget what He promised to Abraham."

Zacharias said that John would be called the prophet of God. John would **prepare** the people who remembered God's promise and were waiting for it to happen. He was going to tell people that the light (Jesus) would shine in the darkness. He was going to tell them to ask God's forgiveness for the wrong things they had done. He would tell them that God would **guide** their feet into the way of peace.

The Bible says that before John gave the people this message, he grew and became strong in spirit. John learned from his parents and from the written words of God what the prophets had told about the Savior, God's Son, who was coming to save people from their sins.

WORDS TO KNOW

prepare: to get ready

guide: to show how

THINK ABOUT

While you are waiting, stop and think about what is really important. God waits, too. He waits for you to believe in Him—He loves you so much!



Questions: THINKING & REMEMBERING

Fill in the blanks or circle the letters of all that are right.

1. How did Zacharias know what John would do?
 - a. Elizabeth told him.
 - b. God told him.
 - c. Another priest told him.
2. Which family would the Savior come from who was a king?
 - a. Isaac
 - b. Noah
 - c. David
3. To whom had God made the promise?
 - a. Abraham
 - b. Elizabeth
 - c. Isaiah
4. What did Zacharias remind the people that God would do?
 - a. love them
 - b. forgive them
 - c. not forget what He promised
5. What would John be called?
 - a. a king
 - b. a carpenter
 - c. the prophet of God
6. What was John going to do before Jesus came?
 - a. tell the people to get ready
 - b. tell the people to listen to the king
 - c. tell the people not to eat certain foods
7. What was John going to tell them?
 - a. that the light (Jesus) would shine in the darkness
 - b. to tell God they were sorry they had sinned
 - c. to prepare for the Savior to come
8. What would God do if they listened?
He would guide their feet into the way of _____.



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Bible Story: BELIEVING THE IMPOSSIBLE

from Luke 1

God likes to **surprise** and **delight** His people. In the Bible, we read that God's people should not have been so surprised when He did what He had promised to do. It is easy for us to think that they should have said, "Yes! We are ready and waiting!"

But they didn't believe what God said. Even when an angel gave the message, there were questions like, "How is God going to do that?" "Why now?" God can do what is impossible for people to do because He is God. Nothing is impossible for God!

Many times people act like there are things that God cannot do, even though we can know that all of God's promises came true. There are more promises and God will keep every promise He made.

Zacharias learned very quickly that God means what He says. He was unable to speak when he didn't believe that God could do what He said He would do. God did not **expect** Zacharias to make it happen. That was for God to do—the impossible. God expected Zacharias to say "yes" to a wonderful plan that would get people ready for Jesus.

WORDS TO KNOW

surprise: what you did not know was going to happen

delight: something that gives joy

expect: to believe that something will happen

PRAYER THOUGHT



Dear God, Help me to believe all of Your words and know that whatever is impossible for me to do is possible for You to do when it is part of Your plan. Help me to understand how much You love me. Please forgive me when I do not remember Your promises and try to do things "all by myself." In Jesus Name, Amen.



Questions: THINKING & REMEMBERING

Fill in the blanks or circle the letters of all that are right.

1. Should the people in the Bible have been surprised when God kept His promises? Yes _____ No _____
God _____ keeps His _____.
2. Do you think you would have said:
 - a. I am ready.
 - b. Wait awhile until I'm older.
3. Check true or false:
 - a. People sometimes don't believe what God says.
true _____ false _____
 - b. Some things are impossible for God to do.
true _____ false _____
 - c. Everything God promised in the Bible He will do.
true _____ false _____
4. What did Zacharias learn about God?
 - a. Everything He says is true.
 - b. He means what He says.
 - c. He will keep His promises, even if we don't believe.
5. How did God give a message to Zacharias?
 - a. He used a helper at the temple.
 - b. He sent Moses to tell him.
 - c. An angel brought the message.
6. What did Zacharias need to do to make the impossible happen?
 - a. believe God
 - b. go to a doctor
 - c. ask someone else what to do
7. From the Bible Words to Remember, what names did the prophet Isaiah call Jesus the Savior?
 - a. Prince of Peace b. Mighty God c. Counselor
 - d. Everlasting Father e. Kingdom Maker f. Wonderful