



Unit 1, Lesson 3

TODAY'S BIBLE STORY:
BIRTH OF JOHN
LUKE 1:57-80; MALACHI 3:1;
ISAIAH 40:3

THE STORY @ HOME

Exciting, isn't it? Just as God promised through an angel, Zechariah's elderly wife, Elizabeth, gives birth to a son. Zechariah and Elizabeth, along with their families and neighbors, are ecstatic and rejoicing. The town celebrates the birth of baby John. And news that once-speechless Zechariah speaks again travels out to hillside homes. The proud papa then sings a praise song about his son John and how he'll prepare the way for Jesus' ministry.

PARENTS & KIDS QUESTIONS:

- A new life means new hope. What do you hope will happen today or this week?
- Tell some of the ways you celebrate an exciting event.
- John's life would announce—or prepare the way for—Jesus' life. How can you tell others about Jesus and His love?
- Not everything happened quickly; it took years for these promises to happen. Can you wait years for God's promises to occur for you?

TOGETHER @ HOME

Births and birthdays are exciting. To help your child internalize the lesson of John's birth story (Luke 1:57-80) find someone in your church who is having a birthday this week. Help your child make-up a birthday song or plan a small party for the individual. Perhaps an elderly or single person in your church would treasure the youthful innocence and attention of a birthday celebration. Also look up and read together Malachi 3:1 and Isaiah 40:3.

BIBLE MEMORY @ HOME

"She will give birth to a son, and you are to give him the name Jesus because he will save his people from their sins" (Matthew 1:21) is our monthly memory verse. This week, put God's Word to music. You and your child find a familiar tune to apply to these words then sing the verse. Our minds remember phrases when they're set to the rhythm and beat of a song. Clap your hands and make a joyful noise.

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NT Unit 1, Lesson 3, Take-home