

Journal Page

- What does this story teach me about God or the gospel?
- What does this story teach me about myself?
- Are there any commands in this story to obey? How are they for God's glory and my good?
- Are there any promises in this story to remember? How do they help me trust and love God?
- How does this story help me to live on mission better?



John Was Born

Luke 1

STORY POINT: JOHN WAS BORN TO PREPARE THE WAY FOR JESUS.

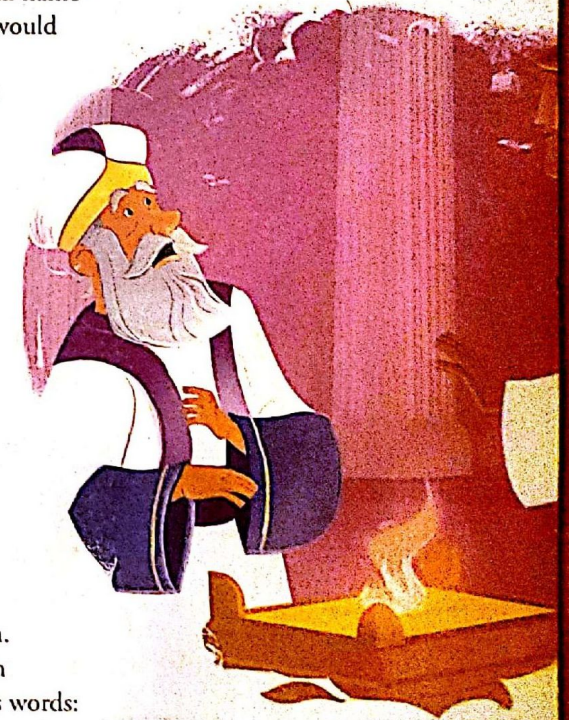
Twice a year, Zechariah went to the temple in Jerusalem to carry out his duties as a priest. One day, Zechariah was chosen to go into the sanctuary of the Lord and burn incense. Suddenly, an angel of the Lord appeared. Zechariah was terrified! "Do not be afraid, Zechariah," the angel said. "God heard your prayer. Your wife, Elizabeth, will have a son, and you will name him John." The angel said that John would help many people turn back to God. John would go ahead of the Lord and get people ready for His coming. Zechariah asked the angel, "How can I know this will happen?"

The angel said, "God sent me to tell you this good news. Because you did not believe my words, you won't be able to speak until these things happen."

Zechariah left the temple. The people outside realized he had seen a vision and could not talk. Zechariah went home to Elizabeth. In time, she became pregnant and gave birth to a son. Zechariah and Elizabeth named their son John. Suddenly, Zechariah could speak again. The Holy Spirit filled John. Zechariah praised God and told the people God's words: "God has come to help His people. He will save us through David's family. He will rescue us from our enemies."

John grew up and lived in the wilderness until God called him to get the people ready for Jesus.

Christ Connection: When Zechariah believed God's word, he praised God. John was born to prepare the way for Jesus. John would point people to Jesus, and they would praise God for keeping His promise to send the Savior.

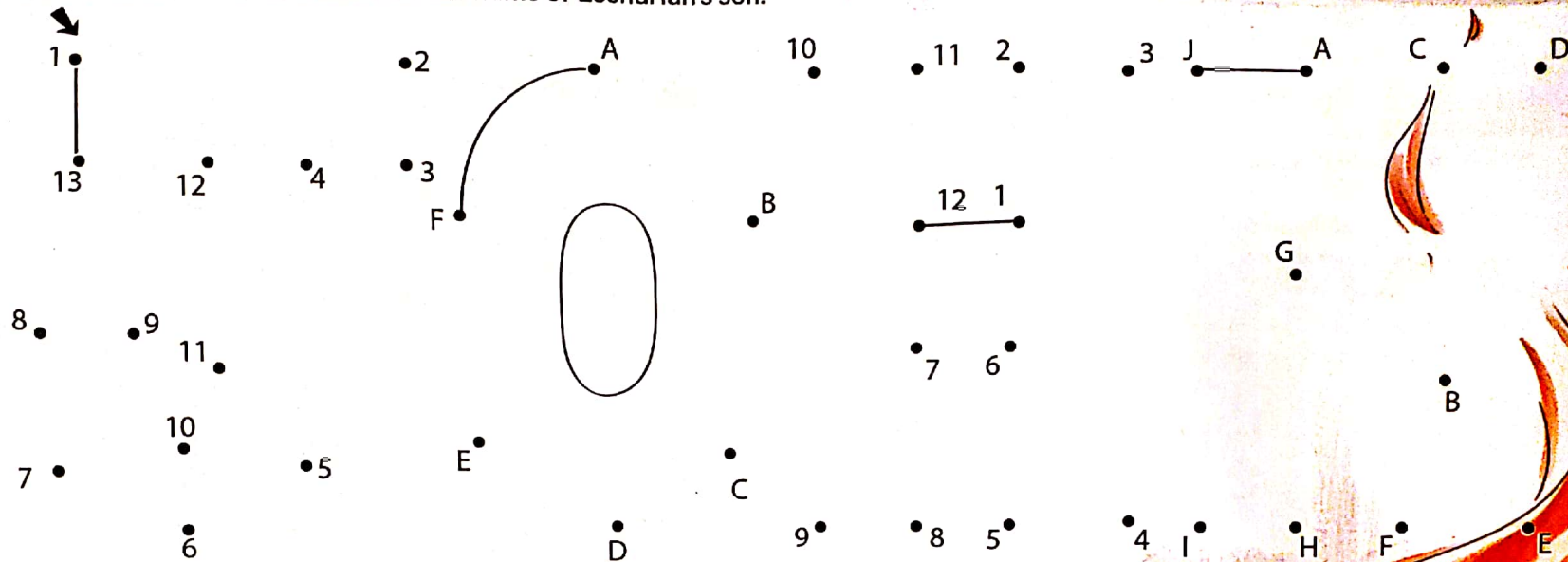


FAMILY DISCUSSION STARTERS

- Do you ever doubt God's goodness toward you? Why?
- Where can we find God's messages for His people?
- Why is it important to obey God by faith?

His Name Is ...

Complete the four dot-to-dots to discover the name of Zechariah's son.



Missing Words

Fill in the blanks with words from the word box.

- Twice a year, Zechariah went to the _____ in _____ to carry out his duties as a _____.
- Zechariah went inside the sanctuary. Suddenly, an _____ of the Lord appeared. Zechariah was _____!
- The angel said, "God heard your _____. Your wife will have a _____, and you will name him _____.
- The angel said that John would help many people turn back to _____. John would go ahead of the Lord and get people _____ for His coming.
- Zechariah's wife, _____, gave birth to a son. John grew up and lived in the _____ until God called him to get the people ready for Jesus.

