

LET THERE BE LIGHT THEATRE

Golf Course Road Church of Christ Children's Ministry

Bible Background

Luke 1:5-25

Focus

John's Birth Story

Memory Verse

"A messenger is calling out, 'In the desert prepare the way for the Lord. Make a straight road through it for our God.'"

-Isaiah 40:3

Materials Needed

- Pre-recorded musical (MORE INFO)
- Costumes for Luke, Elizabeth, Zechariah, Angel, and friends gathered outside the temple
- Phone to record video



Lessons in this Rotation:

Sunday Morning:

- Museum of Biblical History:* John the Baptist Fulfills Prophecies
- How Great Thou Art Studio:* John the Baptist in the Desert
- Matters of Faith Lab:* John Baptizes Jesus
- Let there be Light Theatre:* John's Birth Story

Wednesday Night:

- Good News Game Room:* Review of John the Baptist
- World Changers Central:* India and John's Persecution
- Heart and Soul:* Father, Son and Spirit
- Connect: Doubt

Sunday Rotation Schedule:

DATE	MUSEUM	ART	SCIENCE	DRAMA
2/2/20	1st	2nd	3rd	4th
2/9/20	2nd	1st	4th	3rd
2/16/20	3rd	4th	1st	2nd
2/23/20	4th	3rd	2nd	1st

Introduction

Have your parents ever told you stories about things that happened before you were born? **Allow for answers.** Have they ever talked to you about what it was like for them to find out that they were going to have you? **Allow for answers.** Now we have machines that can take pictures of babies while they are still in their mother's tummy. Parents can find out if they are having a boy or a girl long before the baby is born.

For Zechariah and Elizabeth, they found out they were going to have a baby in a very special way. It's wasn't through an ultrasound though. I wonder how they got the message? **Allow for answers.**

Story

Let's start by reading the story from the Bible. **Read Luke 1:5-25**

So who told Zechariah and Elizabeth they were going to have a baby? **Allow for answers.** That's right, the angel Gabriel brought the message to Zechariah while he was serving in the temple. Did Zechariah believe Gabriel? **Allow for answers.** What happened to him because he didn't believe? **Allow for answers.**

Now that we have read the story from the Bible. Let's listen to a modern day retelling of the story. **Play the song that has been prerecorded. The script is below.** Listen carefully to the words because afterwards we are going to act out the story as the music plays. Be thinking about which part you would like to play.

Liz and Zechariah Script

SUMMARY

In this story we meet Elizabeth and Zechariah. They're cousins of Mary and the parents of John the Baptist. Zechariah has an encounter with an angel and their lives are never the same again.

CAST OF CHARACTERS

Luke

Angel

Zechariah

Liz

LUKE:

Back when Herod reigned as king of all Judea
 (That's the southern part of Israel, got to make things crystal clear)
 A high flier to admire, of the order of Abiah
 Welcome to the stage a Jewish priest called Zechariah
 He and Liz were from the priestly line of Aaron (Moses' brother)
 Obedient to God, Liz longed to be a mother
 Though they tried for a child, it ended up in tears
 To be fair on the pair, they were getting on in years

One day in the month, Big Zee was doing his job
 Serving in the temple with the Temple Mob
 Following the laws, for chores, they all drew straws
 Before they could explore behind the closed doors
 It was necessary to take a bite of the cherry
 A turn to burn some incense in the inner sanctuary
 For Big Zee this was a once in a lifetime opportunity
 While outside the temple people prayed in holy unity
 And so, alone, he got scared to the bone
 An angel of the Lord appeared in the target zone

ANGEL:

Do not fear, you're gonna have a miracle son
 Liz is gonna have a baby and the baby's name is John
 God's heard your prayer, so no more worry or bother
 It's time to party cause you're gonna be a father
 This child of yours will be a great, great man
 But he's got to stay sober with an alcoholic ban
 You see, God's gonna fill him with his Holy Spirit
 Before he's born, he's gonna be with it.
 John's going to be a leader, a spiritual feeder
 Someone who will help the people in the land who need a
 Creed to succeed in turning back to God
 With the power of Elijah like a spiritual hot rod
 He's gonna blaze a trail for the coming of the Lord
 With a message for the people that cannot be ignored
 So if you lament a misspent dissent
 This'll represent and present an event to repent
 Turning dads to kids, and vice versa
 (that's a quote from Malachi) he'll be a precursor
 To the one for the rebel, get ready for the bass
 Embrace, the grace of this spiritual ace.

LUKE:

Zechariah was shaken, he thought he'd been forsaken
 He said to the angel,

ZECHARIAH:

I think you are mistaken

ANGEL:

Hold on a mo, I don't think you get the gist
 My name is Gabriel and I'm standing in God's midst
 Yes I'm coming at you, with God's communication
 To reservate and hesitate is an aberration
 Because you refuse, to trust the good news
 You're getting your dues and I'm pulling the fuse
 On your power to speak, there is no use in trying
 You're gonna be mute 'til you hear the baby crying

LUKE:

Back outside the temple the people were waiting
 Pacing, debating, long anticipating
 Then from through the door Zechariah emerged
 With the urge, on the verge of making a splurge
 But there had been a collision, an angelic decision
 Making signs with his hands, they knew he'd seen a vision
 But it was time to go, it was the end of the show
 He went back home, he had a seed to sow
 There are some things that do not need a translator
 And Liz became pregnant just a few weeks later
 The one conclusion, to hide her profusion
 She spent five months hidden, in solitary seclusion

LIZ:

The Lord has done a great thing, my claim to fame
 He took away my shame, I'm no longer to blame
 He's handed me a waiver, shown me favor
 The Lord our God is a holy life-saver

Activity

After you have listened to the song, assign children to each part. In addition to the main parts listed, you can have someone be King Herod, a group be the "Temple Mob," someone to be John as the angel describes him, and a group to be outside the temple waiting. Once all of the parts have been assigned, help the children get in costume and practice with the song. After practicing a few times, record a video of the kids to post on the FB page.