



God: His Messengers

♥ Bible Love Lesson

Have you ever wondered what angels do all day? Sometimes we think of angels sitting on clouds playing harps. But the Bible tells us what angels really do! They 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 it wonderful to know that God sends angels so that we do not need to be afraid?

Bible Story: An Angel Visit

from Luke 1



Key Points

- ❖ God promised that He would send a **Savior** to save people from their sins.
- ❖ Those who are sorry that they have done wrong things and love Jesus, the **Savior**, will live forever in heaven with God.
- ❖ The Israelites, God's people did not always remember to follow God.
- ❖ Zacharias and his wife Elizabeth loved God and followed His **commandments**. An angel told Zacharias that they would have a son who would tell people that Jesus was coming.

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

Many, many years had passed since God first gave this wonderful promise. The people forgot about God—they chose not to remember. They started worshipping 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 **worshipping** 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."

Word and Phrase Meanings

Savior:	One who saves and makes people free
worshipping:	showing love, honor and respect
forever:	a time that never ends
commandments:	rules to follow
temple:	a place where people worshiped God
priest:	a special person in charge of worship
angel:	a heavenly being who worships and serves God

Questions: Thinking & Remembering

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| <p>1. Whom did God love?
His people</p> <p>2. What was God's promise to His people?
that He would send a Savior</p> <p>3. What do people need to do so they can live forever in heaven?
believe in Jesus (John 3:16)</p> <p>4. Did the people always follow God and remember His promise?
no—they worshiped other gods</p> <p>5. What happened when they forgot God?
they had other rulers—they were not free</p> <p>6. Who remembered God's promise?
Zacharias and his wife Elizabeth</p> | <p>7. What did Zacharias and his wife pray and ask God for?
children</p> <p>8. Who spoke to Zacharias while he was worshipping at the temple?
an angel</p> <p>9. What did the angel say to Zacharias?
"Don't be afraid. God has heard your prayer."</p> <p>10. What did the angel tell Zacharias was going to happen?
they would have a son named John</p> <p>11. What would John do?
tell people what they must do to get ready for the Savior to come</p> |
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Bible Words To Remember

Isaiah 9:6

And He will be called Wonderful, Counselor,
Mighty God, Everlasting Father, Prince of Peace.



**Bible
Song**

The Names of God

c c c c

He will be called

g f e g f e a a g

Wonderful, Counselor, Mighty God,

c c a a g-f-e c-d c c

Everlasting Father, Prince of Peace.

c g g g a g g f f e d c

These words are in the Bible, and I know they're true!

Guided Prayer Thought

Dear God, We are so thankful that you are in control of everything! Even when we do have trouble, we know that You will be there with us and give us hope to know that everything will be wonderful someday in heaven. In Jesus Name, Amen.

♥ Bible Love Lesson

The Bible tells us that “God is love.” God’s love takes care of all people. **God’s love** is special and wonderful. It never ends! God is always patient and kind. God sent Jesus to show us what His love is really like.

Bible Story: The Special News

from Luke 1



Key Points

- ❖ An angel gave Zacharias a special message that he would have a son.
- ❖ Zacharias said he and his wife were too old to have a child.
- ❖ Because Zacharias did not believe the angel’s message, the angel said he would not be able to speak until the promise came true.
- ❖ Remember—all things are possible for God to do!

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 I 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!

Word and Phrase Meanings

God’s love:	the expression of all that is perfect
tidings:	news or message
vision:	dream
impossible:	hopeless; something you think cannot happen
presence:	to be close to

Questions: Thinking & Remembering

1. Why didn't Zacharias believe what the angel told him?
he and his wife were too old to have children
2. What question did Zacharias ask the angel?
"How can I know that what you are telling me is true?"
3. What else did Zacharias say to the angel?
"This cannot be possible."
4. In whose presence was the angel Gabriel standing?
in the presence of God
5. Why was the angel sent?
to bring wonderful news
6. What happened to Zacharias because he did not believe the angel's message?
he could not speak
7. When would Zacharias be able to speak again?
after the child (John) was born
8. What did the people think had happened to Zacharias?
they thought he had seen a vision
9. Did Zacharias understand why he was silent?
Yes
10. Finish this verse from the Bible:
**"With God all things are _____!"
(Matthew 19:26)**

Being What God Wants Me to Be

Possibilities



There are many people who wake up every day and think about all the things that can go wrong. God wants you to start each day fresh and think about all that can go right! He will always help you know that 'impossible' is not a word with Him—with God, all things are possible. Whatever you dream of when God is a part of it, if you believe in Him, it can happen. Begin your day by thinking of the wonderful possibilities that can happen. You can make your mom smile by saying a cheerful "good-morning!" You can make your dad glad to go to his work by telling him to "have a good day, dad!" Think of other ways to be helpful and create many possibilities to show God's love.

Something to Think About

What do you think about when you first wake up in the morning? What does God want us to think about? Tell about some ways that you can create possibilities for showing God's love.

Guided Prayer Thought

*Dear Heavenly Father, We know that you have planned everything and that you will always love us and be with us. Help us to trust you every day and show others that we have confidence in Your love and that nothing is impossible with You.
In Jesus Name, Amen.*

♥ Bible Love Lesson

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 are whispering!

Bible Story: A Messenger is Born

from Luke 1



Key Points

- ❖ **Zacharias and Elizabeth had a baby son. Everyone was happy and rejoicing.**
- ❖ **The angel’s words are true because the message was from God.**
- ❖ **The angel told Zacharias that his son’s name would be John.**
- ❖ **Zacharias was no longer silent! He started praising God in a loud voice!**

What the angel had 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. But 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.

Word and Phrase Meanings

- awesome:** to think in wonder and amazement about how great God is
- celebrated:** to have a happy party when something special has happened
- ordinary:** just like everyone else; what is expected to happen

Questions: Thinking & Remembering

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| <p>1. Why did the words that the angel say come true?
because the words were from God</p> <p>2. What can we always know about God?
His words are true—He keeps His promises</p> <p>3. Who rejoiced when a son was born?
the parents and friends and family</p> <p>4. What name did everyone think the baby boy should have?
Zacharias—his father’s name</p> <p>5. Did Zacharias and Elizabeth know that this was not an ordinary baby?
Yes</p> <p>6. Why was this baby so special?
they were too old to have a child, except for God making it happen</p> | <p>7. How did Zacharias let everyone know what the baby’s name should be?
he wrote it—JOHN</p> <p>8. What happened that changed for Zacharias?
he could speak</p> <p>9. What did Zacharias do when he could speak again?
he praised God for remembering His people</p> <p>10. What did the people wonder?
what kind of a child John would be</p> |
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Praise Hymn

Joyful, Joyful, We Adore Thee

Joyful, joyful, we adore Thee,
God of Glory, Lord of love;
Hearts unfold like flow'rs before Thee,
Opening to the sun above.

Melt the clouds of sin and sadness;
Drive the dark of doubt away;
Giver of immortal gladness,
Fill us with the light of day!

Resource:
My First Hymnal
p. 62

Something to Think About

What does it mean?

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| adore: | showing love Jesus because He is so wonderful and good |
| unfold: | to open up like the petals of a flower to full beauty and joy for Jesus |
| melt: | to make something disappear |
| doubt: | to question and not be sure about |
| immortal: | timeless and everlasting |

Guided 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*

♥ Bible Love Lesson

The people in the Bible waited for Jesus to come. We are waiting for Jesus to come to take us to heaven. But waiting—and waiting patiently is important. There are good and useful things to do while you wait. Jesus knows what the best time is for everything and love means to wait with patience. While you are waiting, show everyone that you love Jesus!

Bible Story: Zacharias Sees the Future

from Luke 1



Key Points

- ❖ God told Zacharias what his son John would do to get the people ready for the Savior.
- ❖ Zacharias told the people what God would do to save His people and make them free.
- ❖ God was going to keep His promise to His people.
- ❖ John was going to tell the people to tell God they were sorry for their sins and for not believing that He would keep His promises.

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. He told us many times through His prophets, that this is what He would do. 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 **instruct** them to tell God they were sorry for the wrong things they had done so that they could see Jesus. 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** until the time God would send him to tell the wonderful news about Jesus coming. 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.

Word and Phrase Meanings

prepare:	to get ready
instruct:	to teach
guide:	to show how
spirit:	the life inside a person
prophet:	someone to whom God has told what will happen before it happens
patience:	to be able to wait without complaining

Questions: Thinking & Remembering

1. What did Zacharias know?
what kind of a child JOHN would be
2. How did Zacharias know what John would do?
God told him
3. What did God tell Zacharias John was going to do?
get people ready for the Savior (Jesus)
4. From whose family was Jesus to be born?
the family of David
5. Who had been telling the people about God's promise to Abraham?
His prophets
6. What did Zacharias say that John would be called?
the prophet of God
7. What would John tell the people?
that the light would shine in the darkness
8. What would he tell the people to do?
tell God they were sorry they had sinned
9. What would God do?
guide their feet into the way of peace
10. Before John could do the work God gave him to do, what happened first?
he grew and became strong in spirit

Being What God Wants Me to Be

Patience



Have you ever had to wait in line behind bunches of people? Maybe you are waiting to go on your special ride at the park and you think—Oh! I wish we didn't have to wait so long! I wish there were not so many people that want what I want!

There are so many times it is hard to wait. But God has lots of lessons to teach us in all of our waiting times. He wants us to learn to stop and think about what is really important. God waits, too. He waits for us to be ready to believe in Him. And He never runs out of **patience**.

Guided Prayer Thought

Dear God, Thank You for always being with us to help us do and say the right thing. Help us learn to be patient and wait for what is right. Help us to be patient and remember what is the most important—that You love us!

In Jesus Name, Amen.

♥ Bible Love Lesson

God promises so many wonderful things. When everything is going just right for us, we sometimes forget that it is God that makes it happen. Even when everything is not just the way we want, God loves us and will help us know that He cares.

Bible Story: Believing the Impossible

from Luke 1



Key Points

- ❖ **The people in the Bible were sometimes surprised when God kept His promises.**
- ❖ **God can do anything—Nothing is impossible for God!**
- ❖ **Sometimes we forget that God can and will do what He promised.**
- ❖ **Zacharias learned that God will do what He said, and He will make the impossible happen.**

I think 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 today 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. When God sent a message to Zacharias about having a son who would tell people that the Messiah was coming, He was *telling* Him—not asking Him if he thought it was something he wanted to 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!

Word and Phrase Meanings

- surprise:** what you did not know was going to happen
- delight:** something that gives joy
- expect:** to believe that something will happen

Questions: Thinking & Remembering

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| <p>1. What can we think God likes to do?
surprise and delight His people</p> <p>2. Should the people in the Bible have been surprised when God kept His promises?
No. God always keeps His promises.</p> <p>3. What do we sometimes think they should have said to God?
“Yes! We are ready and waiting!”</p> <p>4. Do people sometimes ask questions about what God can do?
Yes</p> <p>5. Is anything impossible for God to do?
No</p> | <p>6. Can we know that all that God promised came true in the Bible?
Yes</p> <p>7. What did Zacharias learn about God?
that He means what He says</p> <p>8. How did God give a message to Zacharias?
an angel (Gabriel) brought the message</p> <p>9. What did God want Zacharias’ son to do?
tell people that the Messiah was coming</p> <p>10. Did God ask Zacharias to make the impossible happen?
No. God would make it happen.</p> |
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Bible Words To Remember

Isaiah 9:6

And He will be called Wonderful, Counselor,
Mighty God, Everlasting Father, Prince of Peace.



Prayer Song

I Want to Thank You, Lord

c e g g c d g g
I want to thank You, Lord my God
e f e d g f
for everything You give—
c c g g c d g g
For Jesus and His love for me
e f e d d c
I thank You now my God.

Words and Music: Patricia Russell

Guided Prayer Thought

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