

Unit 19 • Session 2

John Was Born

Bible Passage: Luke 1

Story Point: There is no one like Jesus.

Key Passage: John 1:1b

Christ connection: We can praise God for sending Jesus.

Bible Story for Toddlers

Zechariah and his wife, Elizabeth, loved God, but they did not have any children. One day, Zechariah served in the temple. Suddenly an angel stood next to the altar. He said, “Do not be afraid! Your wife will have a son named John. God’s Spirit will be with him, and he will get people ready for the Messiah.” But Zechariah did not believe the angel’s message! God made it so that Zechariah could not talk until his son was born. When the baby was born, Zechariah and Elizabeth named him John. After that, Zechariah could speak again! Zechariah praised God for keeping His promise to rescue His people.

Gospel Gems

An angel told Zechariah that Elizabeth would have a baby.

John was born to get people ready for Jesus.

Zechariah praised God for His plan to rescue people.

Key Passage

The Word was God. John 1:1 (CSB)

Toddlers Activities

Circle time (5 minutes)

Read the key passage and guide toddlers to say it. Open your Bible to Luke 1. Tell the Bible story. Say the story point and gospel gems. Pray for the toddlers.

Make name door hangers

Cut sentence strips into 6-inch lengths. Write *[His/her] name is [child's name]* on each strip. Provide stickers and crayons for toddlers to decorate their names. Hole punch the top corners of each strip and thread with yarn. Children may hang the artwork on their doors at home. Retell the Bible story.

Say • An angel told Zechariah that Elizabeth would have a baby. John was born to get people ready for Jesus.

There is no one like Jesus!

Compare good and best

Provide clear plastic containers with items toddlers can compare, such as a container with a small cookie and a container with large cookie, a container with a few pennies and a container with several coins, and so forth. Retell the story.

Say • John was born to get people ready for Jesus. God had a good plan for John, but His plan for Jesus was the very best! **There is no one like Jesus.** We can praise God for sending Jesus.

Rock a baby

Provide vinyl baby dolls and blankets for babies to snuggle and rock. Talk about how Zechariah and Elizabeth did not have any children.

Say • An angel told Zechariah that Elizabeth would have a baby. Their baby, John, was born to get people ready for Jesus. We can praise God for sending Jesus. **There is no one like Jesus!**

Play a quiet game

Invite toddlers to sit in a circle with their hands in their lap. Explain that they must stay quiet until you say, "His name is John." Then they can clap, cheer, wiggle, and praise God. Retell the Bible story.

Say • Zechariah could not talk until John was born to get people ready for Jesus. When he could speak, Zechariah praised God for His plan to rescue people! **There is no one like Jesus!**