

# LUKE 1 - JOHN WAS BORN

## KIDS' LIFEGROUP GUIDE

WEEK: 3/1/20 - 3/7/20

### OVERVIEW:

- **Part 1:** Catch Up On Life (15 Minutes)
- **Part 2:** Kidtown Lesson Review (15 Minutes)
- **Part 3:** Reflection (15 Minutes)
  - Optional - Part 3a: Lesson Activity (10 Minutes)
  - Optional - Part 3b: Snack (5 Minutes)
  - Optional - Part 3c: Sing (5 Minutes)
- **Part 4:** Prayer Time! (20 Minutes)

### PART 1: CATCH UP ON LIFE (15 minutes)

**Setting:** Sit in a circle with kids and adults interspersed! Adults sitting amongst the kids helps everyone engage and pay attention. Parents - you are always responsible for your kids, but you're also looking to engage with other kids in your group.

- *Leader Note: If your group eats dinner with your kids, this is the best part of the guide to do together while you eat. Add 15 minutes for everyone to get their plates and start eating. Then shift into intentional conversation as the kids are starting to finish their food.*

**Vision:** God calls the church -- and our LifeGroup -- to be family! Because of this, we want our kids to know our adults and our adults to know our kids. The best way to get to know each other is to ask each other questions and tell each other about our lives.

- *Leader note: While you're getting started, have an adult -- or older kid -- read this vision statement. After you've done it for a while, you can ask kids if they remember why we ask each other questions. Help them to remember that God's making us family, so we want to get to know each other.*

#### Questions:

- 1.) What was your high and low from the week?
- 2.) **Kids Pick!** Let each kid ask the adults in the group one question.
  - Click [here](#) for a bank of questions for Kids to ask Adults if they're having a hard time thinking of any.
- 3.) **Adults Pick!** Have each adult ask the kids in the group one question.
  - Click [here](#) for a bank of questions for Adults to ask Kids if they're having a hard time thinking of any.

## PART 2: KIDTOWN LESSON REVIEW (15 minutes)

**Vision:** God uses the Bible to show Himself to us. He also uses it to help us love Him and others better. We don't only want to learn *about* the Bible; we're also called to apply it to our lives -- to change the way we think (Head), what we love and value (Heart) and what we do (Hands).

- *Leader note: While you're getting started, have an adult -- or older kid -- read this vision statement. After you've done it for a while, ask kids if they remember why we study the Bible.*

**Lesson:** John Was Born

**Bible Passages:** Luke 1

### REVIEW:

- 1.) **Kids what do you remember from the story you learned about on Sunday?** (Pause and let them think of what they can remember.)
- 2.) **Can anyone remember the main characters?**
  - God/Jesus! (*Leader Note: Almost always a right answer. Helps reinforce that the entire Bible is about God and points forward to Jesus*)
  - Zechariah, Elizabeth, John, an Angel
- 3.) **Ok, does anyone remember any of the story points?**

**Story Point #1:** An angel told Zechariah he would have a son.  
**Story Point #2:** Zechariah doubted that God would give him a son.  
**Story Point #3:** God fulfilled His promise and gave Zechariah a son!
- 4.) **Awesome! And can anyone remember how this story connected to Jesus?**

**Christ Connection:** God fulfilled His promise and sent His son Jesus!

**Transition:** That was awesome! Y'all did a great job remembering. Ok let's watch the video and see if we remember anything we forgot or notice anything new this time.

### WATCH THE VIDEO STORY:

Click [here](#) to watch the Gospel Project Video Story.

### TALK THROUGH THE STORY POINTS:

*Leader Note: If your kids are younger, it helps to give them journals. For each question, have them write their answers first and then go around the circle and share.*

**Leader Note:** Say each story point and have the kids repeat it.

#### **Story Point #1: An angel told Zechariah he would have a son.**

- Read Luke 1:5
  - Question: What was Zechariah's job? *He was a priest.*
- Read Luke 1:6
  - Question: Were Zechariah and Elizabeth following God or not following God? *They were following God! They did what was right in God's eyes!*
- Teach: At this time, it had been over 400 years since God's people had heard anything from Him! This was the first word from God in a REALLY long time.

## PART 2: KIDTOWN LESSON REVIEW (CONTINUED)

### Story Point #2: Zechariah doubted that God would give him a son.

- Teach: What the angel told Zechariah was a pretty big deal. Zechariah and his wife Elizabeth were both very old and couldn't have children anymore. Even though it was an angel telling Zechariah that he would have a son, he still had a hard time believing it. Sometimes it's hard to trust that God will keep His promises! Even for a godly man like Zechariah.
- Question: What God told Zechariah was impossible without God's help, but is anything impossible WITH God's help? *No! All things are possible with God's help!*
- Read: Job 42:2
  - Question: When God plans to do something, can anything stop Him from doing it? *No! Nothing can stop God from accomplishing His plans. That means that our doubts won't stop Him from fulfilling His promises, just like Zechariah's doubts didn't stop God from fulfilling His promise!*

### Story Point #3: God fulfilled His promise and gave Zechariah a son!

- Question: Can we trust God will do the things He promises He will do? *Absolutely!*
- Teach: God used John the Baptist to fulfill the promise he made to Zechariah that he would have a son, AND to fulfill promises that He made to His people in the Old Testament, AND John prepared the way for Jesus, who fulfilled God's promise to Adam and Eve ALLLLLLLLLLL the way back in the garden to rescue people from their sin! But these promises all got fulfilled at times that may not have made sense to the people at the time.
  - Question: Who gets to decide when it's the right time for something to happen? Is it God or is it us? *God! That's right, God gets to decide when it's the right time for something to happen.*

## REVIEW THE CHRIST CONNECTION AND APPLY IT:

### Christ Connection: God fulfilled His promise and sent His son Jesus!

- Teach: Through Jesus, God kept His promises to Abraham, David and all of humanity. Jesus saves people from their sins and adopts them into God's family when they put their trust in Him.
- Pray: Let's pause right now and thank God for this!

### Main Application(s): We can trust that God will keep His promises to us and we should praise Him for it!

- Adults first then kids - Is it always easy to trust that God will keep His promises? When is it hard?
- Adults first then kids - Do you ever praise God just because He keeps His promises?
  - Let's do that together right now! *Take a minute to pray thanking God for His faithfulness in your own life.*

## PRACTICE THE KEY PASSAGE:

Ask any of the kids if they can remember the key passage. Help lead them through it leaving out words and see if they can fill them in.

In the beginning was the Word, and the Word was with God, and the Word was God. He was with God in the beginning.

**John 1:1-2**

## PART 3: REFLECTION (10 minutes)

Distribute a sheet of paper to each child or tell them to get their journals. Ask the kids to write about or draw a picture to answer the following questions:

- What does this story teach me about God or about the gospel?
- What does this story teach me about myself?
- What is one thing I need to do in light of this story? (Help the kids think of ways they can grow, how they might pray for help or practical steps of repentance they can take.)

After the kids have had time to write down their reflection questions, go around the circle and share one at a time (kids and adults).

## OPTIONAL - PART 3a: LESSON ACTIVITY (10 minutes)

### OPTION 1: Zipped Lips

Task your group with completing a challenge, such as lining up by age, acting out their favorite TV show, or using their bodies to make different shapes on the ground. Inform the kids that they may not speak while completing the challenge.

SAY • Wow, that was difficult! We spend a lot of time speaking in order to communicate, and it's tough to get our ideas across without talking. Today, we learned about a man who doubted God and couldn't speak until God kept His promise to send a baby boy. How would you feel if you couldn't speak for nine months?

### OPTION 2: Point the way (Older Kids)

Instruct the kids to sit in a circle. Select a kid to stand outside the circle. He will close his eyes while you give a button or other small object to one of the kids in the circle. She will hide the button in her hand or underneath her. The goal of the kid whose eyes are closed will be to figure out who is hiding the button. Before he opens his eyes to do so, silently select a kid, who will always point to the correct kid. Inform the others that they may point to whomever they wish. Invite the first kid to open his eyes and look to see who is pointing to whom. Challenge him to guess who is hiding the button. Play additional rounds as time allows. Select new kids to hide and find the button, but ensure that the kid who always points correctly stays the same.

SAY • In that game, a lot of kids were pointing in different directions, but only one kid in each round was definitely pointing the right way. John was born to prepare the way for Jesus. Everyone who listened to John was pointed in the right direction—toward Jesus. In our lives, we need to be sure the people we listen to and follow are pointing us in the right direction too—toward loving and obeying Jesus.

## OPTIONAL - PART 3b: SNACK (5 minutes)

If your group doesn't eat dinner together, now is a great time to stop for a snack break before spending time praying together and talking about living on mission. For Kidtown we keep snacks simple with Goldfish for most kids and Gummy snacks in case a kid has Gluten allergies.

## OPTIONAL - PART 3c: SING (5 minutes)

Play one or more of these videos and sing and dance along!

- [Great is Thy Faithfulness \(Lyrics\)](#)
- [The Word Was God](#) (Key Passage Song)

## PART 4: PRAYER TIME! (20 minutes)

### PRAY FOR EACH OTHER: (10 minutes)

**Vision:** God calls His people to love each other, pray for each other and help each other carry burdens.

**Questions to Ask** (pick 1):

- How do you need prayer this week?
- What is one thing you need Jesus to help you with this week?
- What is one way you're hoping Jesus will help you grow this week?

**Pray:** Invite each kid to write down the other kids' prayer requests. Then have each kid pray for the person on their right!

### PRAY FOR JESUS' MISSION: (10 minutes)

**Vision:** God calls His people to share with others the good news of Jesus. This means that we try to love others with our actions and with our words. We want all our friends to know about Jesus and His great love for them.

**Questions to Ask** (pick 1):

- What friends or neighbors of yours can we pray for today?
- How can you show God's love this week to someone who might not know Him?
- Who could we invite to do something fun with our LifeGroup friends this month?

**Pray:** Invite each kid to pray for their friends or someone else's friend to come to know Jesus. Have one adult close out the time, thanking God for how we get to be family together and asking God to bring more people into His family!