



## Gabriel visits Zechariah

Luke 1:5-25

**God Statement: Jesus is God's Gift**

**KEY VERSE:**

**"A child will be born to us." Isaiah 9:6a, NIRV**

### CHECK-IN

*(until 15 minutes after the start of each service)*

*As kids check-in, please have them wash their hands or use hand sanitizer before entering your classroom. Then they can participate in the various activities and games in your classroom. 10 minutes after the start of your service time, ask the kids to clean up their activities and toys so you can begin the Explore Activity at 15 minutes after the start of service.*

### EXPLORE ACTIVITY

*(10 minutes)*

*The Explore Activity is a chance to get the kids thinking about the upcoming Bible story for the day. Encourage your kids to engage with the activity as they prepare for the lesson.*

#### **DISCUSS: Jesus is God's Gift**

In today's lesson, we are going to learn about how Jesus is God's Gift.

**Say:** Raise your hands if you like gifts. When do you get gifts? *Pause for response.* We get gifts on our birthdays, sometimes we get gifts for no reason at all, sometimes we get them on special holidays like Easter or Christmas! Do you know what holiday is coming up soon? Christmas, that's right. Did you know that the greatest gift of all came at Christmas? Who's birthday do we always celebrate at Christmas? That's right! Jesus! Jesus is God's greatest gift to each of us. Let's say that together – Jesus is God's Gift!

**PLAY: Sing Praises!**

To get the kids thinking about the lesson, they will be singing praises like Zechariah!

**Directions:** Give the kids an instrument. March them around the room while they are playing their instruments.

**Say:** *An angel told Zechariah he was going to be a daddy! He didn't believe the angel at first but then John was born. Zechariah was so happy he sang a song! Let's march and make music.*

**CLEAN UP**

**(5 minutes)**

*Have the children begin cleaning up as you transition into Large Group time. All the toys should be put away by the end of clean up time.*

*Try singing: "Clean up, clean up, everybody do your share. Clean up, clean up, everybody everywhere."*

**LARGE GROUP**

**(15 minutes)**

*After clean up, have your class gather around the story time rug/blanket/squares and Hamilton's house for Large Group time. .*

**WELCOME & PRAYER**

Tell the kids you are so excited to have them joining you this morning and give them a brief explanation of Large Group and the expectations of them during this time. After going over the expectations, pray to open large group time.

**WORSHIP (5-7 minutes)**

Before starting the lesson, open Large Group time by singing a few familiar songs and using instruments.

*Sing the Christmas songs using the videos (Use the 2s3s folder on Plex Early Childhood)*

**BIBLE STORY (5-7 minutes)****THIS WEEK'S LESSON: Gabriel visits Zechariah**

*Using the props and Hamilton puppet, tell the story for the day. Make sure to keep it brief and engaging by asking the kids questions throughout and using Hamilton to keep their attention. Hamilton has an instrument.*

***Invite Hamilton to come out and see the class***

**Say:** Hamilton, what do you have there? ***Hamilton shakes the instrument.*** That's nice. What are you doing with that? Oh, you're happy? You want to celebrate? Can we help? ***Hamilton nods yes.***

**Say:** Hamilton, we're going to learn about a man named Zechariah. Can you all say Zechariah? *Pause for response.* Zechariah was so happy his baby was born he sang a song. Do you like to sing a song when you're happy like Hamilton and Zechariah? *Pause for response.* We can sing a song, too. Let's sing "Ring, ring, ring the bells," again. ***(Use the 2s3s folder on Plex Early Childhood)***

***Hamilton and kids play instruments and sing.***

**Say:** Thanks for coming today, Hamilton. We will see you next time! Bye! ***Kids wave by to Hamilton.***

### **SAY IT OUT LOUD! (30 seconds)**

*This is the opportunity to remind the children of the God Statement for the day. Even if they struggle to pay attention during the lesson, this part is important to do every week.*

We are learning that Jesus is God's Gift! *Point to the large poster that will be on the wall in your class all quarter: "Jesus is God's Gift" (Have the kids shout it out together multiple times)*

### **WORSHIP RESPONSE (2 minutes)**

Worship Response is an opportunity for the kids to apply what they just learned and to respond to what God is doing in their life. *Have the kids sit in a place where they can be still and reflect independently.* Then read through the Worship Response prompts below as you lead the kids through the time.

***Encourage class to sit quietly.***

**Say:** Friends, are you happy today? Show me your happy face. Are you ever sad? Show me your sad face. Are you ever angry? Can you show me your angry face? Let's go back to happy. We are happy that Christmas is coming.

***Pray to close Large Group time out.***

### **BLESSING (1 minute)**

*Read the verse and blessing over the kids before closing Large Group. Encourage the kids to stand and open their hands to receive the blessing as a truth that they can take with them this week and hide in their hearts.*

**Let's remember our verse: "A child will be born to us." Isaiah 9:6a, NIRV. And who's that child? Jesus!**

***Friends, always remember that Jesus came to earth because He loves YOU!!!***

## CLOSING ACTIVITIES

**(Until parents pickup)**

### **MAKE: Zechariah Coloring Page**

***Supplies:*** Zechariah Coloring Page- one per child, crayons

**Directions:** Pass out one coloring page to each child and encourage them to color the page as bright and colorful as they can to remind them of the lesson from today. Make sure each child takes their coloring page home to show their parents what they learned.

## CHECK-OUT

**(end of service)**

*As parents arrive for check-out, the kids can continue playing with the classroom games and toys.*



Z is for Zechariah,  
Elizabeth, and John