

Old Testament

Zechariah Zechariah 12:10-13;13:7-9

Younger Verse

A Savior has been born to you; He is Christ the Lord. Luke 2:11

Older Verse

Today in the town of David a Savior has been born to you; He is Christ the Lord.
Luke 2:11



Teachers: This unit is designed to help your children understand some of the stories in the Old Testament.

PLEASE remember to always include the New Testament verses—this helps each child see how God’s ultimate plan was fulfilled in Christ!

Welcome Time

Doesn’t it feel good when someone encourages you? Today, take time to encourage every child. You may smile, hug, or say a kind word. It will make them feel great AND you’ll feel good too!

Bible Story

Please note: This portion of the lesson is given to help in teaching the lesson. Please read through the story and read it in the Bible. Do NOT read from this piece of paper. Instead, make a note sheet and place it next to the story in the Bible.

Teachers:

Help the kids know that this is a different Zechariah. It is not the one mentioned in Luke 1.

We are almost through with all the books of the Old Testament. This week’s lesson is on the book of Zechariah. Zechariah was a priest and a prophet. Remember a prophet is someone who tells the people what God says. Haggai and Zechariah worked together.

Do you remember who Haggai was from last week’s lesson? Do you remember what he told the people to do? (rebuild God’s church)

Zechariah was much younger than Haggai. God gave him messages to share with the people too. Zechariah encouraged the people to keep working. Zechariah’s name means “God remembers.” He shared that God remembered them and there was a hope because Jesus was coming! This made the people so excited. They could hardly wait to see how God was going to help his people.

Zechariah encouraged the people do to their best and be ready for the time when Jesus would come. This made the people feel so good. They wanted to have the very best for Jesus.

Zechariah tells us many things about Jesus’ life—before it actually happened! God helped Zechariah to write down and tell the people that Jesus would be a different kind of king. He shared this in 6 of the chapters!

Lesson Goals

**God remembers and knows us
Tell how God kept His promise of Jesus
Jesus is the only way to Heaven**

Listen to what Zechariah tells us about Jesus:

He shares that Jesus will be a servant in 3:8. (See the result in Phil. 2:7)

He tells us that Jesus will ride on a donkey in 9:9. (Jesus does in Luke 19:35)

He explains that Jesus is the good shepherd in 9:16 (Jesus says this in John 10:11)

He reveals that Jesus will be tricked for 30 silver coins in 11:12-13 (It happens in Matt. 27:3)

He shows that Jesus' hands will be pierced in 12:10 (Read about it in Luke 23:32)

He shares that Jesus will save the people in 12:10 (Look it up in John 3:16)

Can you believe that all of these promises came true! They were told **400 years** before they actually happened! It would be like George Washington telling someone (name a boy or girl in your group) that they would go to (____ elementary school)! That's amazing!

Wow! God shared all of this with the people. The funny thing is that many of them still didn't understand. They thought Jesus was going to be a great king and leader. They were surprised to find out that He would be a servant. Instead of riding on a big white horse (like a limo to us) Jesus was riding on a donkey (like a beat-up old car).

Why did God do this? Jesus lived with us. He understood all the things that we go through. He could relate to our hard times and struggles. He was even tempted like we are—but He never sinned. He never did the wrong thing. Jesus took all our bad sins on Himself on the cross. He died for us! Why? So that we can be with God in Heaven if we trust in Jesus and ask Him to come into our lives. Do you believe in Jesus? Have you asked Jesus to come into your heart? You can talk to me anytime about how you can have Jesus in your heart.

Learning Activities

There is a list of activities in the packet. Use the one(s) that will help your children understand the lesson.

Memory Verse Activities

Play Radio D.J. with the kids (see the sheet in the packet) If you use the whole verse that includes the word resurrection, please explain this word to them.

Prayer Time

Pray for people to know about Jesus and trust Him. Be sensitive to the needs of the kids. There may be someone there today that would like to trust Jesus. Ask good questions and listen to what they say.

Snack Time/CleanUp

Clean up the area and serve treats!

Planning for Lesson 104
Don't cheat God
Malachi 3:5-17

Preschool Lesson
For
Zechariah

Do you have a good friend? It is fun to play with friends and have fun with them.

Last week we learned about a man named Haggai. Haggai had a friend that was a messenger too! His name was Zechariah. He was kind of like a cheerleader to encourage the people to rebuild the temple. He helped the people know that God was pleased with their work. Zechariah told them good things to help them smile and continue their work.

Finally, the work was complete. The people had done a good job and Zechariah helped the people know that the job looked fantastic.

Zechariah also told the people news of things that would happen much later. He told them that God would send His Son, Jesus. This excited the people. They could not wait to have God's help.

God loves us too and wants to help us! He cares for us.

Let's sing, "My best friend is Jesus."

Hands-On Activities For Zechariah

We have learned about many people who were messengers for God. Do you think that you can be a messenger for God? Remember what a messenger is? It is someone who tells others about God and what He says. We can do this too by telling people how much God loves them and how He has a special plan for their lives. We can share verses that are important like John 3:16 so that people know how they can go to Heaven. Try to be a messenger this week for God!

Zechariah helped the people know that Jesus would come back one day. Give an illustration of when a teacher leaves the room. Everyone talks and usually someone is the “lookout” to warn everyone that he/she is coming back. Zechariah was kind of like the “lookout” telling the people that Jesus will come back one day. It has been a while since Zechariah and others foretold that Jesus was coming back. But we can’t give up! God always keeps His promises. Jesus will come back again just at God’s right time. We must be ready. How do we get ready? We must believe in Jesus, ask Him to forgive all our wrongs and come into our heart. Jesus will clean out our dirty heart and make it clean on the inside. He will stay with us forever and help us do things God’s way.

Let the kids make their own predictions! On pieces of paper, let them try to predict things that will happen by next week. This is something that they do individually or as a group. Now place the paper in an envelope and seal it. Mark the date on the outside and open it next week. See how many predictions came true. Now share how Zechariah lived 400-500 years before Jesus. Explain that God helped him write predictions that actually came true!!

Look at the predictions and the actual fulfillment of the predictions in the gospels. It is amazing how one little book has such detail about what will happen to Jesus. God helped Zechariah know these things. Share how God knows our future too. If we spend time with Him, He will guide us and lead us in the path we should go.
