

30 A.D.

THE JESUS STORY

The Birth of the Baptist

Luke 1:57-80

REVIEW FROM LAST WEEK

① BIRTH OF THE CHILD (Luke 1:57-58)

PRINCIPLE #1: God keeps His word ... He follows through on His promises. (cf. Joshua 21:45)

② NAMING OF THE CHILD (Luke 1:59-63)

▶ "His name is John"

PRINCIPLE #2: As unbelief & disobedience lead to discipline, so faith & obedience lead to blessing.

③ ZECHARIAH EXPLODES IN PRAISE (Luke 1:64-79)

▶ "The Lord's hand was with him" (John the Baptist)

▶ He worships God for His gracious redemption (vv.68-75)

• Theme: Salvation = God coming to rescue and redeem

• Goal of Being Saved: That we might serve God without fear (v. 74)

• Faith Lesson: God follows through (Keeps His Word) (cf. Genesis 12:1-3; 22:16-17; Romans 10:13)

▶ He prophesies about his son's future (vv.76-79)

• Title: Prophet

• Role: Forerunner of the Messiah

• Message: Salvation through the forgiveness of sins

④ LITTLE JOHNNY GROWS UP (Luke 1:80)

⑤ FINAL NOTE: WHEN MARY & LUKE MEET

▶ Barriers: Age, race, gender, nationality, religious background, life experiences

▶ Ephesians 2:14 - *He himself is our peace, who has made the two one and has destroyed the barrier, the dividing wall of hostility...*

PRAYER: *Jesus, You are my only hope. I call upon You right now to save me from eternal hopelessness & separation from God. Deliver me from my enemies & forgive me of my sins. I am sorry for how I have offended You. I need You to save me. I surrender to You in faith & ask You to come into my life as my Savior & Lord forever! Your Word promises that whoever calls upon Your name will be saved, so I am trusting You to keep this promise. Thank You for Your patience, love, mercy & amazing grace toward me. I am forever in Your debt. Amen.*

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The Birth of the Baptist

Sermons can be viewed online at creeksideeg.com/sermon

DISCOVER

Prepare to celebrate Jesus' birth

READ

Luke 1:57-80 (The Birth of John the Baptist)

In today's culture, we tend to be skeptical of a promise. We tend to take a wait-and-see attitude toward promises, not wanting to trust them too deeply. However, Advent is a time when Christians celebrate promises being kept. "Advent" means coming or arrival. It is a time to prepare ourselves for Jesus Christ's coming, recalling His first advent as our Savior and for seeing God's promises fulfilled.

As you read Luke 1:57-80, think about how the story of John's birth fulfilled the promises of the Old Testament prophecies and prepared the way for Jesus' birth.

SHARE

Advent not only describes the season of the year in which we celebrate Jesus' birth, it also describes the four Sundays leading up to Christmas. One tradition of the Advent season is to light candles on an Advent wreath, each candle helping us to focus on an aspect of waiting for the promised Savior (Hope, Peace, Joy, Love.)

What are some ways your family gets ready to celebrate Christmas? (i.e., special foods, caroling, nativity scene, etc.) Which of those activities or celebrations especially remind you of Jesus' birth?

PRAY

Pray and ask God to show you how your family might prepare to celebrate the coming of Jesus' birth. of His Son, Jesus.

MORE FAMILY ACTIVITIES

Family Advent
"The Birth of the Baptist"
Luke 1:57-80



Digging Deeper

1. What did Elizabeth and Zechariah name their son?
2. What happened after Zechariah decided to name his son John?
3. What was John going to do when he got older?

Memory Maker

Make an advent wreath <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=BWw83CCa2cg> or light a Christmas candle each Sunday evening as you read stories from the Bible or share about where you saw God at work this week.

Recommended Resources

Books

"Pine Tree Parable"
by Liz Curtis Higgs

"The Story of Christmas"
by Patricia A. Pingry

"Christmas Day in the Morning" by Pearl S. Buck

"Christmas in the Big Woods"
by Laura Ingalls Wilder

"Humphrey's First Christmas"
by Carol Heyer

"The Best Christmas Pageant Ever"
by Barbara Robinson

Hands & Feet

Bake some cookies and deliver them to an elderly care facility or retirement home. While visiting, sing Christmas carols with some of the residents.

Watch VeggieTales "Light of Christmas" song
<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=23rntfd6qC8>

VeggieTales Christmas Party: The 8 Polish Foods of Christmas
<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=Oa-mHc51SJo>