



Zechariah and Elizabeth Obeyed God

Unit 3 (February) Session 4

Wednesday 15th and Sunday 26th

Scripture Reference

Luke 1

Memory Verse

1 John 5:3

Life Point

God wants families to obey Him.

Welcome and THANK YOU!!!

Is church a great place to learn how to obey God? Of course! But we live and work outside of our churches, so being obedient to God is much more challenging. Considering the temptations, we face; we must ask the hard question: Is obedience the real problem or does the problem reflect our weak relationship with God – not on His part but on ours? The people of the Bible were real people with real problems and struggles just like us. Consider Elizabeth and Zechariah, for instance. Zechariah served as a priest, but he and Elizabeth could not have children. Not being able to have children was shameful in Bible times, and most people believed that barrenness was God’s punishment for sinful behavior. So how could it be true that God was punishing them when the Bible clearly states in verse 5 that they both were blameless and righteous? Obviously, Zechariah and Elizabeth listened to and learned from God and then chose to obey God, so why were they experiencing this hardship? As their story unfolds, we discover God’s plan for them, for their son, and for the Savior, whom God was readying to send to the world! While the people were praying outside, Zechariah served inside the temple. Suddenly, an angel of God appeared to him and reported that God would answer his prayer for a baby. The angel said that Zechariah and Elizabeth, in their old age, would have son and name their baby John. When the child was born, Zechariah and Elizabeth obeyed and name their son John. From Zechariah and Elizabeth’s story we can learn that God wants families to love and obey Him. God wants us to be a part of what He’s doing. Think of your daily routine and people whom you interact. Name a way you can love, honor, and obey God with each person or step of your routine. Help kids know that each person is responsible for the choices he or she makes. Guide kids to discover that they can live in ways that obey God even if other family members do not obey God.

Activities

Communication

Live It Out!

Obey
Quiet Game

S.O.A.P.

Luke 1 (We will not be reading today due to the length.)

Observation:

1. What was Zechariah’s job? (priest)
2. Who appeared to Zechariah and what did he tell him? (The angel Gabriel. That he and Elizabeth would have a son.)
3. What name did Gabriel tell Zechariah to name the baby? (John)
4. Who came to visit Elizabeth? (Mary, the mother of Jesus)
5. Zechariah and Elizabeth obeyed God even when others tried to persuade them to do something else. How did they obey God? (They named their son John)
6. What happened to Zechariah after he wrote John’s name on the tablet? (Immediately, Zechariah’s mouth was opened, and he could speak.)

Ask: What was God’s plan for Zechariah and Elizabeth’s baby? Let kids give their ideas. Then respond saying that God sent John to be the last prophet before Jesus. John would tell people about the coming Savior. John’s job was to remind the people of God’s promises in the past and to get the people ready to meet Jesus, the Messiah. Just like John, we too are to tell people about Jesus. That is God’s plan for our lives too.

Application:

Talk about God’s plan for each of us – being obedient in sharing the love of Jesus with others around us. It is very meaningful when we share Jesus with those around us. Did you know your actions might encourage someone to want to learn more about Jesus. It is a choice we make every day. This is an act of obedience to God.

Prayer:

Give the kids time to pray by themselves. (30 seconds). Asking God to help them to be obedient and thanking God for our families.

Memory Verse:

“In fact, this is love for God: to keep his commands.”

1 John 5:3

ACTIVITIES:

Bible Skills:

Find Luke 1 and tab it.

Intro Activity – Communication (groups can play or you can draw and let them guess)

Communication – you will draw card/clues about a phrase for the group to guess without speaking or writing the words.

Live it Out! Obey and Quiet Game

Kids will decorate the word OBEY. During the project you could play the “quiet game” where you challenge the kids to see who can be the quietest (no talking, laughing, making any noise) the longest.