



ONLINE PRESCHOOL

April 17/18

God Prepares the Way for Jesus

Luke 1:1-25; 57-80

EXPLORE– Announcing the Arrival

During Explore, your kids engage in fun, creative activities designed to pique their curiosity about the day's portion of The Big God Story.

The angel came and spoke to Zechariah, and the baby John was sent to him and Elizabeth, all in preparation for the coming of Jesus. God was setting things in motion to get people ready for the coming of His Son, our Savior. The decorations we make and hang are a way to show our anticipation for celebration the birth of our Savior.

Supplies:

- Strips of Construction Paper
- Glue or Tape

Invite your children to join you, and show them the materials on the table. What do you think we're doing with these strips of paper and glue? Interact with their responses. We're going to make paper chain garlands. Can you think of a time we might use these decorations? Interact with your children about preparing for celebrations. What do we do to get ready for a celebration? What kinds of things do we celebrate? When they are finished, allow them to put up their garlands.

WATCH THE KIDSWORLD ONLINE VIDEO

Read the story of Zechariah, the Angel, and the Birth of John from an appropriate children's Bible, or show your child where it can be found in your Bible, so they can see the Bible is interesting and true!

RESPOND

During respond time, kids reflect on what the Holy Spirit is teaching them and respond through creative activities and games.

Today in The Big God Story, we heard how God sent an angel to speak to Zechariah. God gave Zechariah and his wife a son, and they were to name him John. God chose John to help people get ready to meet their Savior. God wants us to help prepare the way for Jesus too.

- What do you think Zechariah thought about his son having such an important job? Was he afraid?
- How do you think God wants us to get ready for Jesus?
- Is there someone we can help get ready to meet Jesus?
- How could we help them get ready to meet Him?

CREATE: Awesome Angel

Create is more than just a time to make a craft. It's a hands-on opportunity for children to give artistic expression to what God is doing *within* them. What is created can then become a physical reminder of time spent responding to God.

Supplies:

- Construction paper/paper
- Art medium of your choice
- Angel Template Picture

Draw a picture of an angel or you may find an angel template on the internet. Invite your children to join you. In the Big God Story, we heard how God sent an angel to Zechariah to tell him about how his family would help prepare the way for Jesus. Give each of your children an angel to decorate. Talk to your children as they decorate their angels and ask them how they would feel if an angel came to talk to them. Praise all of their angels as they work.