



Week 1

Day 1: God Hears Our Prayers

Scripture Reading: Luke 1:5-13

Devotional:

Zechariah and Elizabeth were good people who loved God. Zechariah worked as a priest. But there was something they longed for — a child.

They had prayed for many, many years, but nothing happened. Now they were old, and it seemed too late. Then one day, Zechariah went into the temple to burn incense before the Lord, and suddenly an angel named Gabriel appeared. The angel said, “Don’t be afraid, Zechariah! God has heard your prayer. Your wife Elizabeth will have a baby boy, and you must name him John.”

Sometimes we pray and it feels like nothing is happening. We might think, “Maybe God isn’t listening”, or “Maybe He forgot about me”. But that’s never true. God always hears us, and He always answers — just not always in the way or time we expect. God heard every single prayer Zechariah and Elizabeth prayed. He didn’t ignore them; He was waiting for the perfect time. When we pray, we can be sure God hears us. God is working even when we can’t see it.

Discussion:

1. How do you feel when it seems like God isn’t answering your prayers?
2. What can we learn from Zechariah and Elizabeth’s story?

Prayer:

Dear God, thank You that You always hear me when I pray. Help me to be patient and to trust that You know the best time and way to answer. Amen.



Welcome to Week 1 of our Holly Jolly Kitchen Devo!! Over the next month we will be learning about different truths and aspects of the Christmas story. Jesus’ birth was miraculous and amazing. What a joy it is to celebrate Him and learn more about His story through the Bible.

Day 2: Believe What God Says

Scripture Reading: Luke 1:18-20

Devotional:

When the angel told Zechariah that Elizabeth would have a baby, Zechariah had a hard time believing it. He said, “How can this be? We are too old!” Because he didn’t believe, the angel told him he would not be able to speak until the baby was born. It’s easy to believe God when things make sense. But true faith believes even when we can’t figure out how something will happen.

Zechariah loved God, but in that moment, he doubted God’s power. He thought, “We’re too old — this can’t happen! But what Zechariah forgot is that nothing is too hard for God. He gave Abraham and Sarah a baby when they were very old too. God can do the impossible — and He keeps every promise He makes. Sometimes we might not see how God’s promises can come true. We might think, “Can God really forgive me?”, “Can He really help me when I’m scared?”

The answer is YES. God never lies, and His Word is always true. Zechariah’s unbelief didn’t stop God’s plan, but it did make things harder.

Discussion:

1. Why did Zechariah have trouble believing the angel’s message?
2. What’s one promise from the Bible that you can believe today?

Prayer:

God, sometimes it’s hard to believe things I can’t see. Help me to trust You with all my heart and to believe that You can do anything. Amen.

Day 3: God Always Keeps His Promises

Scripture Reading: Luke 1:57-64

Devotional:

Just like God said, Elizabeth had a baby boy! Everyone was excited and wanted to name him Zechariah, after his father. But Zechariah wrote on a tablet, "His name is John." The moment he obeyed, his mouth was opened and he could speak again! Zechariah began to praise God with all his heart. What God says will always happen. It doesn't matter how long it takes or how impossible it seems — God never breaks His promises. Zechariah learned that the hard way. He had doubted before, but now he saw God's power with his own eyes. When he obeyed and named the baby John, just as God had told him to, he was filled with joy and amazement. When we see God's promises come true, it reminds us that He is trustworthy. Think about the promises God has made to us in His Word — that He loves us, that He forgives our sins through Jesus, that He will never leave us. Every one of those promises is true and unbreakable.

Discussion:

1. What happened when Zechariah believed and obeyed God?
2. How has God shown His faithfulness in your life or your family's life?

Prayer:

Thank You, God, that You always keep Your promises. You never forget what You say. Help me to remember that You are faithful and to praise You for what You've done. Amen.

Day 4: Believe & Tell Others About God

Scripture Reading: Luke 1:67-80

Devotional:

After John was born, Zechariah was filled with the Holy Spirit and began to speak powerful words of praise. He thanked God for sending a Savior and blessed his baby John, saying that John would prepare the way for the Lord. Zechariah's heart was overflowing with faith and joy. At the beginning of Zechariah's story, he didn't believe what God said. But by the end, he was full of faith and couldn't stop praising God! God had changed his heart. Zechariah realized that God had a plan not just for him and his family, but for the whole world — the plan to send Jesus to save people from sin. When we believe God and see how good He is, it fills us with joy — and that joy makes us want to tell others about Him! Zechariah praised God out loud so that everyone around him could know what God had done. We can do the same. When God answers our prayers or shows His love, we can tell our friends, our family, or even write it down to share with others. Our faith can encourage someone else.

Activity:

Draw a big shield on paper. Inside it, write or decorate one promise from God (like "God loves me," "God forgives me"). Explain: God's promises protect our hearts when we feel doubt.

Prayer:

God, thank You for changing Zechariah's heart — and for helping me believe too. Please help me to share Your love with others. Amen.

Memory Verse

**"Thanks be to God for His gift
that is too wonderful for words."
2 Corinthians 9:15 (NCV)**

