



Impact Kids Fall 2025

Older Kids Leader Guide

December 3, 2025

The Greatest Gift- Celebrate God is with us. Matthew 1:23

Bible- Dec 3- Luke 1:5-25, 57-66 God hears our prayers, so we trust His timing



At a Glance



The Code



Gospel Page



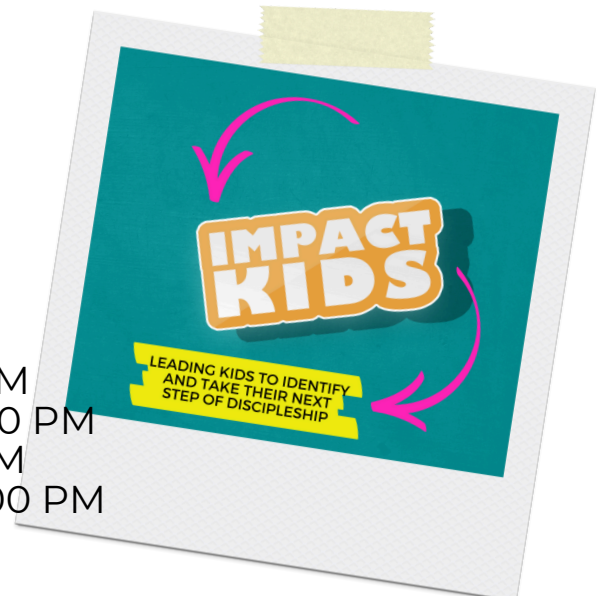
**The Greatest Gift
Leader Devos**

prayer challenge

Write down 3 things you know about Jesus.
Pray asking God to show you more ways to recognize
Jesus around you this Christmas.

Wednesday Group Schedule

Leaders Arrive: 6:15 PM
Family Dinner: 6:30 PM – 6:50 PM
K-3rd Outside Play: 6:50 PM- 7:20 PM
4th & 5th Small Group: 6:50 PM- 7:30 PM
K-3rd Small Group: 7:25 PM- 8:00 PM
4th & 5th Outside Play: 7:30 PM- 8:00 PM
Dismiss: 8:00 PM- 8:05 PM



Low Energy Game:

Supplies:

- cellphone

Play a Game of Hot or Cold Without Words

Say: In today's Bible story, Zechariah couldn't believe the timing God chose to answer his prayer for a child—he and his wife seemed way too old!

Because of his disbelief, Zechariah couldn't speak until the baby was born.

Let's play a game where we can't speak, like Zechariah.

- Hold up the cellphone so everyone knows what it looks like.
- Invite a willing person to be the first Searcher, who will search for the hidden cellphone by following the gestures of everyone else.
- Have everyone practice a gesture for "hot" that will mean the Searcher is getting close to the cellphone. All the kids could fan themselves as if they're hot.
- Then do the same for a gesture for "cold" that will mean the Searcher is far from the cellphone. All the kids could shiver as if they're cold.
- Have the Searcher close his or her eyes tightly or even go just outside the room for a moment while you hide the cellphone.
- After you hide the cellphone, invite the Searcher to open his or her eyes or come back into the room and begin looking for the phone.
- Everyone will give the "hot" and "cold" gestures to help guide the search but may not talk. Encourage everyone to have fun with it and make their gestures more dramatic as the person searching gets "hotter" or "colder."
- Play a few rounds of the game with new Searchers and new gestures, such as motions for "near" or "far" or anything the group decides.

Talk About It

Ask: • What changes would you make to this game to make it much easier to find the phone?

Say: The game would have been much easier if you could talk. Imagine going nine months without being able to talk like Zechariah!

Ask: • Using only gestures, tell about something you're praying about.

After kids gesture, let them use words.

Say: Like Zechariah, most of the time we'll have to wait for our prayers to be answered, and sometimes we'll wait a long time. It doesn't mean God is ignoring us or has missed our prayers. God hears our prayers, and though it can be hard to understand God's timing, we can trust God's timing. God knows best.

Talk About Video:

Discuss and Watch Watch “How to Build a Megaphone”

Say: God hears our prayers, so we trust his timing.

Ask: • Tell about a time you felt like no one was listening to you. *Share your own story first.*

Say: Let’s see how Awesome Andy solved the problem of feeling like God wasn’t listening to his prayers.

Ask: • Why do you think Andy’s giant megaphone didn’t work?

• Andy said he gets tired of waiting for God to answer his prayers. *Tell about a time you felt like that.*

Say: God hears our prayers, and we don’t need a giant megaphone or any other invention to help God hear us. He always hears us!

Deeper Bible:

Supplies

- Bibles
- timer or cellphone timer
-

Guess When a Minute Is Up

Say: Zechariah had to wait so long for a son...he probably thought it was too late. Maybe he wondered if God had forgotten about his prayer altogether. What if we feel like God has forgotten about our prayers? Let’s dig in to that.

First, since we’re learning about trusting God’s timing, let’s see how accurate your sense of time is. I’m going to say “go” and start a timer, but you won’t be able to see it. When you think one minute has passed, raise your hand.

Start the timer as you say “go,” and watch for one minute. Look around and make a mental note of who is too early and who is too late. At about 10 seconds past one minute, tell kids how much time has passed, and share who was most accurate.

Say: Now that you’re warmed up, let’s put your timing to the test.

Have kids line up against one wall. Tell them they’ll be racing to be the first to touch the opposite wall. But they can only start the race one minute after you say “go!” If they start too early, you’ll disqualify them. If they start too late, they might lose because they missed some time.

Start the timer as you say “go” and watch for a minute. Disqualify any kids who start before the minute is up.

Ask: • What was it like to figure out exactly when one minute had passed?

• What went wrong if your timing wasn’t quite right?

Say: This game just goes to show that our timing can be a little off.

Some of you went too early, and some of you waited too long. But God’s timing is never rushed, and it’s never too late. When we trust God’s timing, we know he’ll be right on track. Let’s dig deeper and see what the Bible says about God’s timing.

Deeper Bible: cont

Dig Deeper

Say: In our game, we had to think carefully about how long a minute is. But listen to God's sense of time.

Read Psalm 90:4.

Ask: • What does this verse show you about God's timing?

Say: If a thousand years to us is like a day to God, no wonder it sometimes feels like he's taking a while. But God's timing is always perfect. Check this out.

Read 2 Peter 3:9.

Ask: • If you were waiting for God to answer a prayer, how much time would make it feel slow to you?

Say: When God seems to be taking a while to answer your prayer, it might be so that it's even better than you expect! Zechariah wanted God to give him and Elizabeth a baby when they were younger. Instead, God sent him a very special baby that helped make the way for Jesus! But the timing had to be right so that the baby was just a little older than Jesus. Zechariah was able to be part of something big because God's plan took longer than he wanted. But we can't always see God's big picture.

Read Ecclesiastes 3:11.

Ask: • What does this verse show you about why God's timing is perfect?

Say: So...when it feels like God is being too slow to answer your prayers, remember: God's timing is perfect. God hears our prayers, so we trust his timing. He's not in a rush, and he's never too late. If we're impatient, it's because our timing is off. We can wait patiently for God to answer our prayers. Let's end this section of our lesson with one more verse that's like a prayer.

Read Psalm 27:14.

Pray: Thank you, God, that we can wait patiently for you because you hear our prayers and answer in your perfect time. In Jesus' name, amen.

Life Application:

Thank God

Say: God hears our prayers, but sometimes when we're waiting for an answer to prayer, it's hard to trust that. One thing that can help us trust God's timing is remembering how he's answered our prayers in the past.

- Have kids form groups of four.
- In their groups, have kids thank God for what he's done for them in the past.

Wrap Up

Pray: God, thank you that you hear our prayers. We know you've heard and answered so many prayers, and we trust your timing as we continue to come to you in prayer. In Jesus' name, amen.
Thank kids for coming, and encourage them to come back next week.

Activity Page with a Point:

Older Kids: Color a Coloring Page

Supplies Needed: Coloring Page, pencils, crayons

Say: God hears our prayers, and we can trust his timing. But Zechariah didn't trust God's timing. He thought God was too late! Because of his doubt, he couldn't talk until the baby was born. Let's play a game where you can't talk!

Distribute the activity pages and pencils. Kids will find others who can sign each square of their bingo cards—without talking at all!

Ask: • How did you communicate in this game when you couldn't talk?

• What are ways to communicate with God?

Say: Whether our prayers are spoken aloud or just come from our hearts, God hears our prayers.