



Zechariah's Unbelief

Luke 1:5-25, 1:57-80

A long time ago, God sent an angel to a man named Zechariah (pronounced: Zeck-uh-rye-uh). The angel said, “Your wife, Elizabeth, will have a child. It will be a boy, and you must call him John. He will prepare the way for Jesus.”

Junior Rangers, did the angel say to name the baby Sam or John? (John)

That’s right!



But Zechariah (pronounced: Zeck-uh-rye-uh) ***did not believe God's message from the angel.***

(Point to Zechariah)

Rangers, does Zechariah (pronounced: Zeck-uh-rye-uh) ***look like a young man or an old man?*** (Old man)

You're right! He and his wife were very old, and they didn't have any children.



So the angel told Zechariah (pronounced: Zeck-uh-rye-uh), “You will not be able to speak until after John is born. That’s because you did not believe what God told you.”

Show me a thumbs down if this sounds like bad news. (Everyone will show thumbs down)

It sounds like bad news to me, too. Let’s keep reading to find out what happened next.



(Point to Elizabeth)

Rangers, the angel was telling the truth! Very soon, Zechariah's (pronounced: Zeck-uh-rye-uh) wife, Elizabeth, was expecting a baby just like the angel had said.

JOHN



Do you remember what the angel told Zechariah (pronounced: Zeck-uh-rye-uh) to name the baby boy? (John)

That's right! When the baby was born, they named him John, just like the angel told them to do.

Let me see your best excited faces! (Everyone will make excited faces)

You look so excited, and I have something exciting to tell you! When baby John was born, Zechariah (pronounced: Zeck-uh-rye-uh) could talk again!



When Zechariah (pronounced: Zeck-uh-rye-uh) ***saw that God did what He promised to do, Zechariah's*** (pronounced: Zeck-uh-rye-uh) ***friendship with God grew.***

When you and I believe God, our friendship with Him will grow, too! Let me hear you say this after me! (Pause to allow kids to repeat)

I Can (thumbs to chest)

Believe (pat heart)

God (both hands point up)