



At-A-Glance: Ages 6-7
God of Wonders: The Wonder of Advent
Unit 10, Lesson 48

Advent 1: Gabriel Visits Zechariah

Lesson Aim: To know God comes near to prepare our hearts.

THE WELCOME

MEET & GREET: What is your favorite way to get ready for Christmas?

GAME: Silent Draw

THE WORSHIP THE GOD WHO COMES NEAR

Read Worship Scripture: Luke 1:13-14, 17.

Sing songs and worship God.

Bless and collect the offering.

Advent Candle Lighting Ceremony: Angel's candle

Perform High Seas Adventures script or read storybook.

THE WORD GABRIEL CAME TO ZECHARIAH

Children sign note cards; place in Golden Bowl. Classroom Covenant.

Review: God sent Joshua and His people to conquer Jericho.

Today, we move ahead almost 1,400 years to learn how God prepared His people for Jesus' birth. This story takes place inside the temple in Jerusalem. Point to Jerusalem. God sent His angel Gabriel to tell Zechariah he would have a son. He was to name him John. Point to John the Baptist (Circa 1 A.D.). This was the very same John who would tell the world about Jesus. Reveal Bible Story
Scripture Reference: Luke 1:18-20, 62-64. Pray.

When we read about Moses, we learned of a special tent where God's people worshiped Him in the desert. The altar of incense was kept there. Do you remember what the tent was called? (The tabernacle.) Years later, the altar of incense was kept in the temple. Zechariah was standing next to the altar when Gabriel appeared.
Read Luke 1:18-20, 62-64.

THE WAY GOD COMES NEAR TO US

What was the angel's name? (Gabriel.) Gabriel said God had heard Zechariah's prayers. When Zechariah first heard Gabriel, did he

believe? (No.) Why was it hard for him to believe he and his wife would have a baby? (They were very old.) Who else, in the Bible, was blessed with a baby in their old age? (Abraham and Sarah.)

Gabriel was God's messenger. He said he usually stood in the presence of God. What happened to Zechariah when he did not believe Gabriel? (He could not speak until his baby was born.)

What did Zechariah name his baby? (John.) What was the first thing he did when he was able to speak? (He praised God.) Zechariah's baby would grow up to share a special message. John would tell people to prepare because Jesus was coming very soon.

God wants to help us prepare, or get ready, to celebrate Jesus' birthday at Christmas. Being quiet helps us to listen to God. What would you think if you had to be quiet from now until Christmas?

Let's practice being quiet and listening to God right now. At Christmas, we celebrate that our amazing God came to earth as this little baby named Jesus. For the next minute, let's be silent and ask God to come near to us during this Christmas season. Ask Him to show you ways you can come near to Him every day. Pray silently.

CHRIST CONNECTION:

Did you know the angel Gabriel also appeared to others in the Bible? Over 500 years earlier, he appeared to Daniel. Both times, Gabriel came during a moment of worship and both times, Gabriel came with news of answered prayer. Reveal Daniel 9:21-22. Read.

Gabriel went to Daniel to help him understand a message from God. Understanding more about God brings us closer to Him. Who has God sent to you to help you understand more about Him?

THE GOLDEN BOWL: Pray for individuals. Pray the Lord's Prayer.

FINAL FIVE MINUTES:

- TREASURE TREAT: Advent Calendar
- DAILY WAY CHALLENGE
- OFFERING OF ART: Gabriel talking to Zechariah in the temple
- PRAYER REQUESTS
- BIBLE MEMORY VERSE SONG

GOT TIME?

SNACK: Prepared to Snack

GAMES: Zechariah's Silent Charades, Listen Closely

CRAFT: Listen to the Bells Ornament

BIBLE MEMORY VERSE ACTIVITIES: Appearing Angel, Memory Verse Circle

BIBLE TIMELINE REVIEW