

Love is a Promise (1)



Bible verses:
Luke 1:5-20



Aim:
To know that Zechariah's prayers were answered



Today's fruit:
Patience

Resources: *Zechariah and Elizabeth, Timeline*



Memory verse

'God will give us a son who will be responsible for leading the people. His name will be Wonderful Counsellor, Powerful God, Father Who Lives Forever, Prince of Peace.'

(Isaiah 9:6 ERV)



Start it

Play a favourite Christmas song. When the music stops, the children are to sit down and put their finger over their mouth – and not make any noise! Ask the children to think about patience, waiting and being silent.



Share it

Use the *Zechariah and Elizabeth* handout. Cut out the characters and place them in the middle of the circle as you read the story, stopping to add in characters or ask questions.

I wonder:

- How might Zechariah have felt when the angel appeared?
- What did he think about the angels' message?
- Why might he have felt and thought that?



Sing It

'Isaiah 9:6' (memory verse song) by Quest NC (1:15)

'There are promises' (official kids worship music video) by YancynotNancy (2:08)

'God gave me Jesus' (pre-school worship song) by KidSpring Children's Ministry (1:54)



Action it

Games and activities to reinforce the Bible passage:

- **Make:** Create an Advent timeline using the *Timeline* handout. Colour and stick the characters from the *Zechariah and Elizabeth* handout on to the first page. Keep the next four pages for the following sessions.

- **Play:** Play a game of *Ready, Steady, Go*. Give the children an action like jumping or wiggling and wait for the word 'Go!' to start the activity. Extend the time between the words to build anticipation. What did it feel like to wait for the word 'Go'?
- **Pray:** Remind the group of the story and that sometimes we need to wait to see God's promises, and sometimes waiting can feel hard. As you sit in a circle together, explain that you are going to turn a sand timer over, and while you all watch the sand fall, ask God quietly in your head to help you be patient.
- **Try:** Learn the memory verse together. What actions can you do to help you?