



# FOR PARENTS

## OF PRESCHOOL-AGED KIDS

W A I T F O R I T

Hey, parents! Here's a look at what we're covering with your kids this month so you can help your kids continue growing at home during the week. If you aren't comfortable joining us on Sunday mornings yet, the following pages will give some activities and discussion questions to help you

### GROW AT HOME THIS MONTH

#### WEEK 1 – December 6

This week, kids hear about how **John the Baptist prepared the people** who couldn't wait to meet the long-awaited Savior.

- **THE BIBLE:** Mark 1:1-8
- **THE BIG IDEA:** Everyone needs a Savior.

#### WEEK 2 – December 13

This week, kids hear about how **John the Baptist told everyone that he was not the Savior**, but that the Savior was on the way.

- **THE BIBLE:** John 1:19-28
- **THE BIG IDEA:** Wait and see, the Savior will change everything.

#### WEEK 3 – December 20

This week, kids hear about how **an angel appeared to Mary** and told her some strange and exciting news!

- **THE BIBLE:** Luke 1:26-38
- **THE BIG IDEA:** Wait and see, God will do impossible things.

#### WEEK 4 – December 27

This week, kids hear about how **Simeon and Anna had been waiting to see the Savior** for a very long time.

- **THE BIBLE:** Luke 2:22-40
- **THE BIG IDEA:** Jesus is the one we've been waiting for.

#### MEMORY VERSE OF THE MONTH: Micah 7:7 (NLT)

**But as for me, I look to the Lord for help. I wait confidently for God to save me, and my God will certainly hear me.**

# WAIT FOR IT – (PRESCHOOL)

## WEEK 1 – December 6

This week, kids hear about how **John the Baptist prepared the people** who couldn't wait to meet the long-awaited Savior.

● **THE BIG IDEA:** *Everyone needs a Savior.*

● **THE BIBLE:** *Mark 1:1-8*

*ACTIVITY | Before the kids arrive, place small, plastic toys in a deep bin. Cover the toys in tinsel so they are no longer visible. Make sure to count the number of toys in the bin beforehand so you know when all of them are retrieved.*

- Hi, friends! Today, we're talking about our need for a savior. **Does anyone know what a savior does?** That's right – a savior is someone who rescues us when we need them the most!
- Now, let's all look at our toys. It looks like they need a savior, too! Our toys are trapped underneath all this tinsel! We have to help!
- So, when I say, "Go," I want you to reach into the bin and rescue as many toys as you can. Are you ready?
- Remember, just like our toys needed saving, we need saving, too!

*SCRIPTURE | Mark 1:1-8*

*TEACHING TIME*

- **INSTRUCTIONS:** *Before beginning the story, place a [toy bug](#) and a stuffed [camel](#) nearby for use while you tell the story. \*\*If you don't have a toy bug or camel, you could use a picture, or do the story without them\*\**
- I'm so excited about our story today! We'll be hearing about how everyone needs extra special help in the form of a Savior . . . Jesus!
- So, a long, long time ago, there was a man named Isaiah. Isaiah was a prophet, which is a fancy word for "messenger," for God. And Isaiah had a message: That it was time for Jesus to come to Earth for a visit, and that there would be someone who would get everything ready for Jesus' visit.
- Now, John did some things that might seem silly to us but were very important to show others that he listened to and followed God. John wore clothes made out of camel's hair (*Pick up the stuffed camel*) and he ate only locusts – which are like big grasshoppers – and wild honey (*Pick up the toy bug*).
- John the Baptist traveled and taught many people about God and about the Savior who was coming. . . Jesus! John the Baptist baptized people and helped them get ready for Jesus' arrival.
- John the Baptist helped Jesus by preparing the people around him to know that they needed Jesus to rescue them. And just like they needed Jesus as their Savior, we do, too!
- Today's Big Idea is . . . **Everyone needs a Savior!**

*ACTIVITY | Ornament*

- Make an ornament to remember that Jesus was sent to be our Savior! Cut out a circle or a star from construction paper. Decorate the shape any way you want for Christmas. Use ribbon, stamps, sequence, glitter, markers – be creative! Cut a piece of string or ribbon and glue in a loop on the back so you can hang the ornament on your Christmas tree.

*MEMORY VERSE | Micah 7:7 (NLT) - As for me, I look to the Lord for help. I wait confidently for god to save me, and my god will certainly hear me.*

● **INSTRUCTIONS:** *Read Micah 7:7 out loud to the kids. Ask the kids to repeat the verse after you. Then, tell them to shout the verse with you. Next, tell them to whisper the verse quietly. Try other silly voices like squeaky voice, etc.*

*PRAYER | Dear God, we thank you for giving us a Savior and for sending John the Baptist to prepare the way for Jesus. Thank you for sending Jesus to save us. We love you. Amen.*

# WAIT FOR IT – (PRESCHOOL)

## WEEK 2 – December 13

*This week, kids hear about how John the Baptist told everyone that he was not the Savior, but that the Savior was on the way.*

- **THE BIG IDEA:** *Wait and see, the Savior will change everything.*
- **THE BIBLE:** *John 1:19 - 28*

*POLL | Do You Wish You Could Change?*

- **INSTRUCTIONS:** *Have your kids stand on one side of the room. As you ask the questions, instruct the kids to take one step forward if their answer is yes and to stay where they are if their answer is no.*
- **Do you wish you could change . . .**
  - **How old you are?**
  - **How tall you are?**
  - **How many brothers and sisters you have?**
  - **Where you live?**
  - **Your hair color?**

*SCRIPTURE | John 1:19 - 28*

*TEACHING TIME*

- **INSTRUCTIONS:** *Explain the different motions you'd like the kids to do while they listen to the story. Tell them to shrug their shoulders every time the Jewish people are confused about John the Baptist, shake their heads "No" every time John tells them that he is not the Savior, and put their thumbs up whenever John tells them about the Savior.*
- Our story this week begins where we left off last week. Last week, we heard all about a special man named John the Baptist, who was preparing the way for Jesus the Savior by telling people all about Jesus and baptizing the people in water.
- Because John was telling everyone around him about the Savior and baptizing them, the Jewish leaders sent people called the Levites to ask John who he was (*shrug your shoulders*). John explained to the Levites that he was not the Savior (*shake your head*), but a messenger.
- John told them he was making way for the Savior (*put your thumbs up*). But the Pharisees and the Levites were still confused (*shrug your shoulders*). They asked why he was baptizing people if he was not the Savior
- John told them when he baptized people with water, he didn't really wash away their sin – he just helped people decide in their hearts to ask God for forgiveness. But the Savior could actually wash away our sins (*put your thumbs up*)! John said that the Savior was coming, and they should all be ready to receive his message (*put your thumbs up*).
- Today's Big Idea is . . . **Wait and see, the Savior will change everything.**

*ACTIVITY | Changing Colors \*\*optional\*\**

- **INSTRUCTIONS:** *Use color with [water activity books](#) or [Crayola Color Wonder kits](#) to show how color appears even though you can't see it on the tips of the brush or marker.*
- Notice how all the colors changed while you were decorating? Maybe you really wanted one part of your ornament to stay in one color, but the paper changed the color on you!

- Things don't always work out the way we wish they did. We don't always get everything we want. But when plans change on us, we have to remember that if God is in charge, those changes are so much better than what we were thinking.
- Look at all your ornaments! You see . . . change can be beautiful!
- Wait and see, the Savior will change everything.

*MEMORY VERSE | Micah 7:7 (NLT) - As for me, I look to the Lord for help. I wait confidently for God to save me, and my God will certainly hear me.*

- **INSTRUCTIONS:** *the memory verse together. See if you can each say one word of the verse and keep going back and forth until the end of the verse.*

*PRAYER | Dear God, sometimes we might not like change because it makes us give up something we are used to. But remind us that when it's Jesus making the change, the change is always good. Thank you for changing everything. Amen.*

# WAIT FOR IT – (PRESCHOOL)

## WEEK 3 – December 20

*This week, kids hear about how **an angel appeared to Mary** and told her some strange and exciting news!*

- **THE BIG IDEA:** *Wait and see, God will do impossible things.*
- **THE BIBLE:** *Luke 1:26-38*

### ACTIVITY | *The Impossible Game*

- **Have you ever played the game, “Operation?”** *In this game, you have to grab little pieces with a tweezer without making the person’s nose light up and shake!*
- **INSTRUCTIONS:** *Provide the “[Operation](#)” game for the kids to try. Allow each kid to get a chance to try and retrieve a game piece without triggering the buzzer. \*\*If you do not have the game operation, come up with your own impossible game, such as make a tower of 50 blocks, or stand on one foot for 5 minutes etc.\*\**
- **This game seems impossible, doesn’t it?**
- **The Bible is full of stories where God does impossible things and our story today is no different!**

### SCRIPTURE | *Luke 1:26 - 38*

### TEACHING TIME

- **INSTRUCTIONS:** *Have two family members help act out this story. Provide a robe for the kid who plays Mary and a halo and robe for the kid who plays the angel, Gabriel.*
- **Today, we’re about to hear a very special story. This story begins with an angel named Gabriel** *(Have the kid playing Gabriel come up to the front in their costume).* **God sent Gabriel to Nazareth, a town in Galilee, to meet a woman named Mary** *(Have the kid playing Mary come up to the front in their costume).*
- **Mary was about to be married to a man named Joseph. Gabriel greeted Mary and said, “God has blessed you in a special way. God is with you.”** *(Motion for Gabriel to approach Mary.)* **But Mary was worried, she wondered what Gabriel’s message could mean** *(have Mary make a worried face).*
- **Gabriel knew she was worried** *(have Gabriel tap Mary on the shoulder).* **He said to her, “Do not be afraid, Mary. God is very pleased with you. You are going to have a baby and you will call him, Jesus. Jesus will be great, and everyone will come to know him as the Son of God.”**
- **But Mary was confused** *(Have Mary shrug her shoulders).* **She wasn’t sure how she was going to have a baby when she wasn’t married? Gabriel told her** *(have Gabriel put both hands up towards the sky)* **God has the power to make the impossible happen . . . whatever God says will come true.**
- **After hearing all this, Mary said, “I serve God. May it happen to me just as you said it would”** *(Have Mary bow or curtsy).*
- **Today’s Big Idea is . . . wait and see, the Savior will do impossible things.**

### ACTIVITY | *Wait and See*

- **One of the things the Israelite people cried about most was water. Which gets me thinking . . . one way to help others is to give away a bottle of water! It can be a friend at school, or teacher, or a neighbor.**
- **INSTRUCTIONS:** *This is kind of like “Pin the Tail on the Donkey.” On a large poster paper or banner paper, draw a large pair of glasses. Write one word of the Big Idea on separate sticky notes. Have the kids line up about three*

feet away from the poster. Put a blindfold on the first kid, and hand them a sticky note. Have them spin around three times, then guide them towards the poster. See if they can stick their sticky notes inside of the glasses frames. After all the sticky notes are up, have kids help you put the Big Idea in the right order.

- **What impossible thing did Gabriel tell Mary was going to happen?**
- **How did Mary respond to this impossible news?**
- **What did Gabriel tell Mary when she was worried about God's news?**
- **Mary needed to wait and see that God will do impossible things!**

*MEMORY VERSE | Micah 7:7 (NLT) – As for me, I look to the Lord for help. I wait confidently for god to save me, and my god will certainly hear me.*

- **INSTRUCTIONS:** Practice saying the verse together. Then say it one by one to each other.

*PRAYER | Dear God, thank You for sending Gabriel to tell Mary about Jesus. Help us to believe that you can do impossible things, like Mary did. We know that you have the power to do anything, like sending Jesus to us! Amen.*

# WAIT FOR IT – (PRESCHOOL)

## WEEK 4 – December 27

*This week, kids hear about how **Simeon and Anna had been waiting to see the Savior** for a very long time.*

● **THE BIG IDEA:** *Jesus is the one we've been waiting for.*

● **THE BIBLE:** *Luke 2:22-40*

ACTIVITY | Wait!

● **INSTRUCTIONS:** *Draw an outline of a [stable](#) on paper. Print (or draw!) and cut out each of the characters the story of Jesus' birth. . Hide each of the pieces around the room. Have the kids look for the pieces. Once all of them are found, help the kids place the characters inside the stable. Remind the kids that Jesus' birth was worth waiting for!*

SCRIPTURE | Luke 2:22 - 40

TEACHING TIME

- **INSTRUCTIONS:** *Instruct the kids to make a clock noise ("tick-tock, tick-tock") every time they hear about someone waiting in the story.*
- *After Jesus was born, Mary, Joseph, and Jesus traveled to Jerusalem. It was tradition for babies to be taken to the temple so that they could receive prayer and blessing. So, Mary and Joseph traveled and waited (tick-tock, tick-tock), finally arriving in Jerusalem with Jesus.*
- *There in Jerusalem was a man named Simeon. Simeon was a god man who loved God very much and he had been waiting (tick-tock, tick-tock) for God's promise to come true. God's Spirit was with Simeon and told Simeon that he would not have to wait (tick-tock, tick-tock) forever and would see the Savior soon.*
- *God led Simeon to the temple courtyard just as Jesus' parents brought Jesus in. Simeon took baby Jesus in his arms and praised God! He said, "God you are King over all. This is what You have promised. My eyes have seen how You will save everyone." Mary and Joseph were amazed at what Simeon said about Jesus.*
- *Also at the temple was a prophet named Anna. She was very old and stayed at the temple praising God. Like Simeon, she was waiting (tick-tock, tick-tock) on the promised Savior. When Anna saw Mary, Joseph, and baby Jesus, she walked up to them and gave thanks to God. She told everyone there about Jesus and how God had kept a promise to the people. Their wait (tick-tock, tick-tock) was over!*
- *Joseph and Mary did everything God required of them and Jesus grew and became strong and wise!*
- *Today's Big Idea is . . . Jesus is the one we've been waiting for.*

MEMORY VERSE | Micah 7:7 (NLT) – *As for me, I look to the Lord for help. I wait confidently for god to save me, and my god will certainly hear me.*

- **INSTRUCTIONS:** *Write the verse or passage on index cards – one word or phrase per card. Shuffle the cards. Take turns putting the verse together in order.*

PRAYER | Dear God, we thank you for sending Jesus. You kept your promise to the people in the Bible, like Simeon and Anna, who were waiting for the Savior and you keep your promises to us. We love you. Amen.