

# Today's Story

is full of surprises—here are two surprises for you:

Surprise #1: You're the illustrator, so get ready to draw!

Surprise #2: The story pictures are mixed up. After you draw the pictures, add numbers to put them in the right order.

Zechariah came out of the temple and tried to show the people what had happened.

Zechariah and Elizabeth were sad after waiting so long for a baby.

Zechariah wrote, "His name is John."

Zechariah went home to Elizabeth and showed her they were going to have a baby.

Zechariah and Elizabeth were so happy to have a baby.



The angel told Zechariah he was done waiting for a baby, and God's people were almost done waiting for a Savior.

God surprised Zechariah with an angel. Zechariah was terrified!

After months of waiting, Zechariah got his voice back and praised God!

Zechariah prayed to God in the temple.

Check the order of your story pictures in Luke 1:5-25, 57-64.

Memory

**Challenge:** 

Luke 2:8-14

# Watching and Waiting

#### How many times

can you find the word *waiting* in the story sentence pictures on the previous page?

Unscramble this word to find out what all of God's people were waiting

## for: **ISRVAO**.

Waiting can be hard—especially when you are waiting for a promise to come true! What is the hardest thing you have ever had to wait for? Write it down here:

> Next time you're waiting in line for something, use some of the time to talk to God!

### **Dear Family:**

Welcome to Wonder! It's our hope that the story of Jesus' life on earth—and especially his reason for coming—will come alive in the heart and mind of your child in the coming weeks as we wonder together about God and God's incredible plan for the world. Wondering questions are great because they have no right or wrong answers! (You'll find lots of them in your God's Big Story Cards.) Here's something to wonder about with your child today: I wonder what Zechariah and Elizabeth told their son John about the day they found out he was coming....

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# God Loves You!

# **God Loves You!**

When Zechariah received good news from God, he couldn't wait to tell everyone about it! Make a pop-up card to share the good news of God's love with someone.

#### Here's what you'll need:

- scissors
- tape or glue
- coloring pencils or markers
- paper to make a card

#### Here's what you'll do:

• Cut the "God Loves You!" strip off of this Show and Share paper.



• Fold it back and forth about six times.

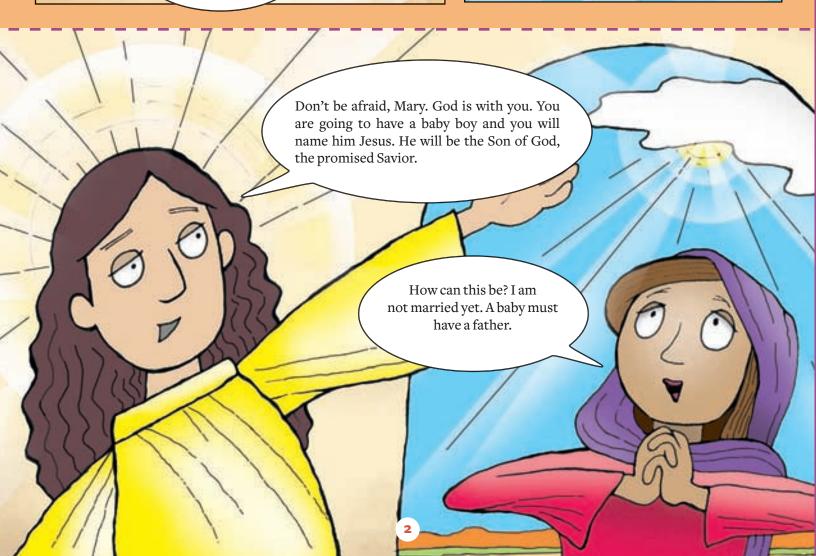


- Fold your card in half.
- Decorate the front and inside. (You could write SURPRISE! on the front if you like.)
- Tape or glue the pop-up strip inside the card.

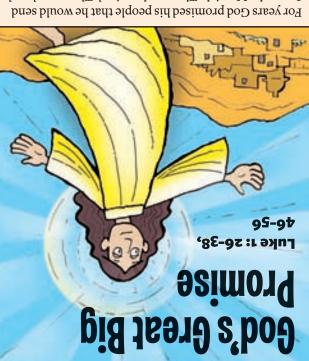


• Surprise someone!









For years God promised his people that he would send Jesus, the Messiah. The people waited. They wondered when that great day would be. On this day, God would make the big announcement. Gabriel would bring the news to Mary.

Let's Make A Book! Fold the top half of this page back along the dotted line that runs across the middle of the page. Then fold along the solid line that goes up and down in the middle.



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# **Celebration Chants**

### Gather your family to thank and praise God for his goodness to us.

Leader: Who promised to send Jesus into the world? Give me a G. (*Pause for response after each.*) Give me on O. Give me a D. What does it spell? (*God*) Let's clap to celebrate God! (*Clap your hands.*)

**Leader:** God promised the Messiah would be born. What is his name?

Give me a J. Give me an E. Give me an S. Give me a U. Give me an S. What does it spell? (*Jesus*) Let's spin in place to celebrate the Messiah! (*Do so.*)

Leader: Jesus' coming is a gift for whom?

Give me a U. Give me an S. What does it spell? (Us) Let's high-five each other to thank God for Jesus! (Do so.)

# Memory 9

Luke 2:8-14

**Challenge:** 

# **Dear Family:**

**Today your child heard** the story of the angel Gabriel's visit to Mary to announce the good news that Jesus, the Messiah, was coming soon. Help your child turn this page into a mini-storybook of that story. After reading it together, celebrate God's great plan for the world by leading your child (or having your child lead you!) in the cheer at left.



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