

Real Life Downloaded & In the World

For December 15, 2024

Lesson Focus: Allow God to prepare your heart for the message of Jesus.

Bible Basis: Luke 1:67–80

Memory (Key) Verse: Luke 1:76–77

Summary (Lesson Title): Zechariah's Prophecy

Step 1

PREPARING THE HUNT

Fantasy and story lover Jon Collins-Black has hidden five treasure chests across the United States, and the hunt is on. In "There's Treasure Inside," Jon uses a series of clues and hints to guide readers to the treasure chests, which are full of collectibles and prizes worth around two million dollars. But this treasure hunt took preparation—from testing his clues to participating in auctions for historical relics, Collins-Black worked hard to create a nation-wide treasure hunt that would be accessible for all who wish to participate. While no prizes have been won so far, people from across the country are using online platforms to share ideas, theories, and updates about the hunt as they prepare to find the treasure.

PREPARING FOR CHRIST

Before Zechariah's son, John, is born, an angel of the Lord tells Zechariah that John will prepare the people for Christ. John is born, and Zechariah praises God, for **He** will set **His** people free. Zechariah is filled with the Spirit and prophesies about Jesus' coming and John's role in preparing the way. John will teach the Jewish people that they can only be saved through God's forgiveness of sins. Zechariah worships God and points out that **He** has not abandoned **His** people but is instead providing them with a Savior.

Questions

1. When has preparation enabled you to experience something great?
2. Why is preparation important?
3. How does John prepare his listeners for Christ's coming?

Additional Links

Any videos or web materials are for your personal use.

If you play any media files in class, be sure to have the necessary rights to do so.

1. Contemporary Worship Weekly
<https://open.spotify.com/playlist/4Gkwp5ZDf5Eww31SGcF4n?si=63d4fa10ddfa47aa>

2. Echoes Worship Weekly
<https://open.spotify.com/playlist/2psN0hA48H9lyh6vJc5KKb?si=3ef5bb07ee15409e>
3. Traditional Worship Weekly
<https://open.spotify.com/playlist/2utAcyXMWglyBYmM6iBLfi?si=26c938e689ad4d1f>
4. Brittany E. Wilson's "Commentary on Luke 1:5–13 [14–25] 57–80"
<https://www.workingpreacher.org/commentaries/narrative-lectionary/zechariahs-song-2/commentary-on-luke-15-13-14-25-57-80-2>
5. Elisabeth Johnson's "Commentary on Luke 1:5–13 [14–25] 57–80"
<https://www.workingpreacher.org/commentaries/narrative-lectionary/zechariahs-song-2/commentary-on-luke-15-13-14-25-57-80>
6. Video: BibleProject's "The Birth of Jesus: Luke 1–2"
<https://bibleproject.com/explore/video/gospel-luke-1/>

You can find **Steps 2 and 3** in your teacher's guide. For upper elementary, middle school, and high school your Step 4 appears below. For adult, use the Step 4 in your teacher's guide. To purchase a teacher's guide, please visit: Bible-in-Life or Echoes.

Step 4

You can find Step 4 of this lesson in your teacher's guide, which you can purchase by visiting Bible-in-Life or Echoes.