

Year 5

God is Lord and King 3 Weeks



Outcomes

At the completion of this module students will understand that:

- God is in charge of the whole world
- Christmas is a special time when we remember when God sent Jesus into the world as part of his big plan for the world
- Baby Jesus was God's son. This means that although he was a human baby, he was also God
- The birth of Jesus was foretold in the Old Testament
- John the Baptist was chosen by God to tell people to get ready for the coming of Jesus

Related classroom topics for Science, Social Studies and Health:

World geography – countries and continents

Link between "God is Lord and King" and classroom topic:

Discuss with the children that God is in control of the whole universe. That is, our world, the sun and the stars. He tells the sun the time to set. He makes the tides because the moon is under His control, (Ps 104:19). Because God is looking after our world, He looks after the people that He made. He sent His son Jesus into the world so that every person in the whole world could have the opportunity of knowing the true God.

Values:

faith; respect for truth

God is Lord and King

Week 1

The world waited for His coming.

Bible References

Isaiah 9:6; Micah 5:2; Zechariah 9:9 Christ's coming foretold by the prophets.
Luke 1:5-25; 57-80 The birth of John the Baptist

Introduction

People of Old Testament times knew how difficult it was to keep God's commandments. God knew this too. When people of the Old Testament broke the commandments, they had to offer a sacrifice to God to show that they were sorry. That meant they had to give up their best sheep or goat.

God knew that there was a better way. He promised His people that He would one day send someone who would be able to take away people's sins. That person was God's Son, Jesus. God told the prophets that Jesus would come one day. Many were looking forward to the coming of this special person who they called the Messiah.

Bible Research

Look up some Old Testament verses that speak of the coming of Jesus. (Isaiah 9:6; Micah 5:2; Zechariah 9:9)

When the time for Jesus' coming had arrived, God sent a messenger to tell everyone, so they would not miss Him. The messenger told the people that Jesus really was the Son of God, and that they must get ready for Him. They must turn away from their sin. The name of the special messenger was John the Baptist.

The Birth of John the Baptist

Part 1 Zechariah meets an angel

(Read Luke 1:5-8 & 11-20)

Zechariah sees the angel while working in the temple. The angel tells Zechariah the news, that he and his wife Elizabeth will have a baby, even though they are quite old. They are to call the baby John.

Zechariah will not believe the angel, so the Lord seals His lips. He is unable to speak until after the baby is born.

Part 2 John the Baptist is born

(Read Luke 1:57-64)

Zechariah explains that everything happened as the angel had said. He cannot speak until he finally writes down the baby's name for everyone to see...

HIS NAME IS JOHN (*Have ready a prepared card showing the name JOHN*)

Part 3 John's special job

(Read Luke 1:76-77)

Zechariah explains his son's work: God has sent John the Baptist to tell people that they must get ready for God's Son. They must believe and repent. (Repenting is turning away from sin).

Activity

The events in the following story appear in jumbled order. Students write numbers down the left hand side to give the correct sequence of events. Ask: "What happened first in the story?" (Ans: 'The angel brought the news...' – put a no. 1 next to this, etc.)

- Zechariah did not believe the angel so the Lord sealed his lips.
- Zechariah wrote the baby's name: "His name shall be John".
- The baby was born.
- The angel brought the news to Zechariah that his wife would have a son.


Memory verse

Revise John 3:16.

Puzzle

What was the special message that John the Baptist preached?

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Answer: The Messiah is here. Believe and repent.

God is Lord and King

Week 2

The birth of Jesus

Bible References

Luke 1:26-39; 2:1-7; Matthew 1:8-25

Introduction

We talked last week about the angel from God named Gabriel. He told Zacharias about John. The angel Gabriel also came to Mary, and told Mary she would have a baby. The angel told Mary that her cousin Elizabeth was also expecting a baby.

In the sixth month of Elizabeth's pregnancy the angel came to Mary and said, "You will become pregnant and give birth to a Son, and you will name Him Jesus. He will be the king of all the descendents of Jacob, and His kingdom will never end."

(Discuss the Biblical timeline from previous lessons: Jacob was a descendent of Abraham who was promised many children – the nation of Israel and as well, all those who accept Jesus as Saviour.)

Mary said to the angel, "How can this be, for I am not married?"

The angel said, "The Holy Spirit will come on you, and God's power will rest upon you. For this reason the holy child will be called the Son of God. Remember your cousin Elizabeth? She herself is six months pregnant, even though she is old. For there is nothing that God cannot do."

Mary hurried to Elizabeth's house. When Mary greeted Elizabeth, the baby moved within her, and Elizabeth was also filled with the Holy Spirit.

One night, an angel of the Lord went and told Joseph that Mary was going to have a son and they would name Him Jesus. The angel said that Jesus would save people from their sins. Joseph took Mary as his wife. Joseph and Mary lived in Nazareth and Joseph is a carpenter.

The Roman emperor, Caesar Augustus, made a law that everyone should be taxed. So the Roman government ordered people to go to their tribal ancestral city, in order to be enrolled in the census. Joseph was from the Tribe of Judah, so Mary and Joseph had to travel to Bethlehem. It was about 120 km, (75 miles), from Nazareth to Bethlehem.

When Joseph and Mary finally arrived at Bethlehem, they found that there were a lot of people there. As there wasn't any room for them at the inn, they had to stay the night in the stable at the back, where the animals were kept. (Luke 2:7)

During their time in Bethlehem, it was time for Jesus to be born. Mary wrapped Jesus in swaddling clothes (tight linen bands), which she had brought with her. She laid Him in a manger, which is a feeding trough for animals. (Luke 2:7)

That same night, an angel of the Lord appeared to the shepherds. They were out in their fields during the night, watching over their sheep. They were very afraid! But the angel told the shepherds: "Don't be afraid. I bring you good news of great joy that will be for all the people. Today a Savior has been born to you; He is Christ the Lord. This will be a sign to you: You will find a baby wrapped in cloths and He will be lying in a manger." (Luke 2:8-20)

The shepherds wanted to see baby Jesus. They went right away! After they saw Jesus, they told everyone about Him!

Mary and Joseph found a home in Bethlehem and stayed there. The shepherds had come to visit Jesus on the night that he was born, but about a year and a half to two years later, some other important visitors came.

There were wise men and they lived far to the east. They were also called 'magi'. These were men who studied books of prophecy, telling events to come. Their books told them that a king would be born and the sign would be a special star in the sky. One night, they saw the bright star and followed it to worship Jesus. The Bible doesn't tell us how many wise men came to visit Jesus. There were three gifts, but that doesn't mean that there were three men. They fell down and worshipped Him. They opened their treasures and gave gifts to Jesus. They gave Him gold, frankincense and myrrh. They had asked King Herod if he knew of a new king. This was a shock to King Herod, to think that there may be a king who would replace him. He was jealous of the new king. He asked the wise men to find the king and tell him. But the wise men knew that Herod meant to do harm, so they did not tell him where Jesus was. They went home a different way, keeping well away from Herod and his men.

God is Lord and King

Week 3

God's love for the world

Focus

Believing and repenting

Bible references

John 3:16 God loved the world so much that He sent His Son.

Matthew 1:21 And she will bring forth a Son, and you shall call His name Jesus, for He will save His people from their sins.

Matthew 3; Luke 3 The Baptism of Jesus

Introduction

Revise the story of the birth of John the Baptist. We are now going to move forward in time and look at John the Baptist as a man. He is about thirty years old. He is now doing the work that God called him to do: that is, to tell people to get ready for Jesus by changing their hearts and lives.

Read about John the Baptist from the Matthew 3:1-6.

Now ask students to make a drawing of John the Baptist from the description given in the Bible. Start with the outline of a man and gradually add to it.

What were John's clothes made from?

What did he wear around his waist?

What do you think his hair would have looked like?

Do you think he would have had a beard?

Where was he preaching? (Draw the background).

What did he eat for food? (Draw bees and locusts).

Was there a river nearby?

Discussion

What was John's message?

People were baptised as a sign that they wanted to change, and turn to God. Going under the water was a sign that their sins were washed away and that they had accepted God's forgiveness. Just as water makes things clean, God can make our hearts clean.

What did the people have to do before they were baptised? (Matthew 3:5-6)

Did the people who were baptised believe in Jesus? (Luke 3:15-16)

Why do you think some people believed in Jesus even though they had never seen Him?

Some people came to be baptised without being sorry for their sins, and without believing that Jesus was the Son of God. These people were the Pharisees. What did John say to them? (Matthew 3:7-8).

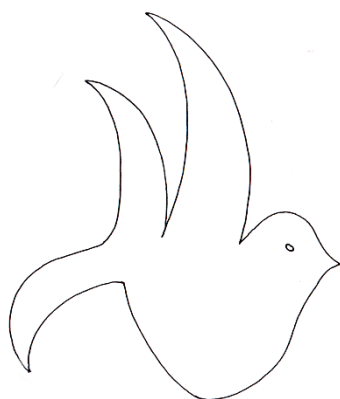
Do you think John would have baptised these people?

Read about the baptism of Jesus. (Matthew 3:13-17)
How did John feel when Jesus asked to be baptised?

Why did he feel like this?

How could the people be sure that the One they had been waiting for was finally here with them? (Matthew 3: 16-17)

What was the purpose of Jesus coming to earth? (John 3:16)



Art/Craft

Draw a dove and cut it out. Make a stained-glass window. Use thick black paper and blue cellophane. Cut out a white dove using this stencil, and glue it in the centre of the cellophane.

The dove was a sign from God that it was now time for Jesus to do His work on earth. The dove was also a sign of God's Spirit, the Holy Spirit. (Matt. 3:16-17)