

At Home Weekly is designed for you to use during the week with your son or daughter. You'll find out what they learned today at church and can help them prepare for next week by exploring the theme (or Ponder Point) and spending time together in God's Word.

WHAT WE LEARNED THIS WEEK

REMEMBER & CELEBRATE

Feast of Unleavened Bread: Remembering and Celebrating God as Redeemer

WHERE WE'RE HEADED NEXT TIME

PONDER POINT: GOD PREPARES THE WAY

Mini Big God Story from Judges to Jesus
Judges–Luke 1:25

DID YOU KNOW?

Share these facts to get the conversation started.

- For 400 years between the Old Testament and New Testament, God did not speak to His people.
- No miracles, signs, or wonders have been recorded from the 400 years of silence.
- While Zechariah was in the temple, an angel told him that his wife would give birth to a baby (John the Baptist) who would prepare the way for the Messiah.
- When Zechariah emerged from the temple, God made him unable to speak so he couldn't tell those around him what had happened.

CONNECT AS A FAMILY

Play the "Quiet Game" by seeing who can remain silent the longest. Then read **Luke 1:1–23**. Share with your children how God remained silent for 400 years, between the Old and New Testaments. Even so, He never left them. Ask your children why they think God made Zechariah silent. Then share that Zechariah and Elizabeth's son grew up to be John the Baptist.

After reading the Scripture passage, discuss these questions together:

- What do you think it was like for God's people not to hear from him for so long?
- Who was the promised Savior for whom God was preparing the way?
- How does God prepare us to meet with Jesus?

These questions can easily extend into the rest of the week. Look for opportunities to bring conversations about how God prepared the way for Jesus into your everyday life as a family.

REMEMBER VERSE

The Remember Verse focuses on a character trait of God that's highlighted in next week's portion of The Big God Story.

**Praise be to the Lord, the God of Israel,
because he has come to his people and redeemed them.
Luke 1:68**

BLESSING

Blessings are often used in the Bible. A blessing can be a prayer of commission, a portion of Scripture, or words to encourage and guide.

A blessing to pray over your child:
(Child's name), **God has prepared a way for you to know Him. May you know the depths of His love for you. May you go out and share God's love everywhere you go.**

For more information about blessing your child, talk to your ministry leader or see *Spiritual Parenting* by Michelle Anthony.