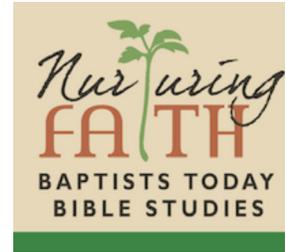


Youth Teaching Resources

December 6, 2015



Hope Waits

A Time for Praise — Luke 1:68-79

A Time for Joy — Zephaniah 3:14-20

A Time for Peace — Micah 5:2-5a

Season of Christmas

A Time for Growth — 1 Samuel 2:18-26

www.baptiststoday.org

Subscribe to *Baptists Today* to access the core Bible content for this lesson.

www.nurturingfaith.net

Find links and videos related to this lesson.

A Time for Praise

Luke 1:68-79

YOUTH Teaching Guide

by Jeremy Colliver

This youth teaching outline is designed to support THE BIBLE LESSON by Tony Cartlege, printed in *Baptists Today*. You can subscribe to either the digital or print edition of *Baptists Today* to access the lessons. Please also ensure that each person in your class has a copy of *Baptists Today* so they can prepare before the lesson.

TEACHER PREPARATION: YOUTH AND THIS LESSON

There is a flood of information that washes over our students every day. They are connected to so many different mediums and hear so many different voices it is hard to understand how anything gets through to them, much less sticks and influences who they are. One way to gauge who they not only hear, but listen to, is watch and listen for what they repeat. This may be the key to understanding who influences them. The goal is not to then emulate who they listen to and insert your own message, but know the conversations that they are part of so that you know how to communicate with them. But the most important thing is to continue to be present. Students choose to listen to who they want to listen to, but when they need someone to talk with, the people that they hear from are rarely there. But if you have created a space for them to hear from you, they will turn to you and listen to what you have to say.

TEACHING THE LESSON

Fellowship

Begin your session by showing the clip “Evan Speaks with God” from *Evan Almighty*. If you are unable to show the clip, summarize it to the best of your ability and then facilitate a discussion using questions like the following:

- 1) How does Evan hear from God?
- 2) Why was Evan hesitant in following what God has for him to do? What was God’s response?
- 3) When have you heard from God?
- 4) How did you know it was God? How did other people respond when you told them?
- 5) What was God calling you to do? How did it transform you?

Information

Transition to the next section of the session by reading Luke 1:68-79. Allow the students to ask any initial questions they have about the text. As you answer their questions, you may want to provide some of the information from THE BIBLE LESSON, printed in *Baptists Today*.

When the students have had an opportunity to share their initial thoughts, continue the discussion by facilitating a discussion using questions like the following:

- 1) What had happened to Zechariah that had made him unable to speak? What happened so that Zechariah could speak again?
- 2) Why does Zechariah say that God should be blessed?
- 3) Who does Zechariah speak about in his prophesy? Where did these prophesies come from?
- 4) What would be the result of this messiah who would come?
- 5) Who is the “Lord” that Zechariah speaks of in this passage?
- 6) What did Zechariah say his son, John, would do for the messiah?

If your group would like to continue their discussion on this passage, share some of the insights provided in “Digging Deeper” and “The Hardest Question” (NF Online Adult Teaching Guide).

Transformation

Conclude your session by having your students participate in a listening exercise. As your students get comfortable and put away all of their distractions, introduce them to the concept of *Lectio Divina*. When you have introduced the prayer practice, use the passage you read earlier, Luke 1:68-79 to participate in *Lectio Divina*. (If you are leading a younger group, you may want to pause after each section to allow students to share.) When you have concluded the exercise, allow for students to share what they heard God saying to them.

Close your time together with a prayer thanking God for desiring to have the type of relationship with us where we hear from God.