

The Birth of John the Baptist: Lesson 1

SuperTruth: Nothing is impossible with God.

SuperVerse: “For nothing is impossible with God.” Luke 1:37 (NLT)

Bible Story: Luke 1:1–80

Game Materials Needed:

- Fourteen round balloons—they may be various colors, sizes and shapes to make the game more fun and challenging
- If balloons aren’t available, substitute paper or plastic bags, or sheets of paper
- Unbreakable plates: 10 paper, Styrofoam or plastic
- For classes with more than 12 children, create more teams of 6 children with 5 additional plates and balloons per team
- Black permanent marker
- Whiteboard and marker, or chalkboard and chalk

Teaching Materials Needed:

- Prayer Journal Cover Pattern and Prayer Journal Page Pattern
- Leather laces, twine, or brown yarn; two six-inch strands per child, plus extra
- Children’s scissors
- Optional: crayons, colored pencils, or washable markers
- Hole punches
- Whiteboard and marker, or chalkboard and chalk
- Bible or the Superbook Bible App

SuperVerse Materials Needed:

- Balloon, plus extras in case of breakage
- Whiteboard and marker or chalkboard and chalk
- Bible or the Superbook Bible App

Prayer Materials Needed:

- Bible or the Superbook Bible App

LARGE GROUP / GRADES 1–6

Today, we will watch a Bible story about the birth of John the Baptist. In the video, we will learn that nothing is impossible with God!

- Joy loses her patience while babysitting energetic little Charlie.
- Superbook takes Chris, Joy, Gizmo, and Charlie to meet Elizabeth and Zechariah, who learn they will have a baby in their old age. Our heroes deduce from past adventures that Elizabeth’s unborn baby will grow up to be John the Baptizer. They also learn that God has amazing plans for each of us, and every child can grow up to be someone special.

SMALL GROUP / GRADES 1–6

Game: Grab, Build and Balance (15 minutes)

Objective: Find and assemble the SuperTruth.

- In this game we will face a difficult, but not impossible challenge. God can handle the most difficult situations as well as the impossible—there is nothing He can’t do for us and through us!

Game Instructions:

- The gatherer for each team quickly walks to the balloons and picks one balloon with a word from the SuperTruth, then it is brought back to the team and placed onto a teammate’s plate to build the SuperTruth.

Teaching: Everything Is Possible (15 minutes)

Objective: Discuss how God can do anything.

- Have you ever created a plan and then realized it was impossible to do it? That isn’t the case with God’s plans! God has all wisdom to create plans and the power and ability to complete them!

Take Home Activity—Discipleship Challenge (5 minutes)

- Our challenge for the three lessons in this course is to keep a journal of your praises to God, your prayers, and how He answers your prayers so you can thank Him! Each day, your challenge is to write something in each of the three sections.

SuperVerse: Superbook Circle (5 minutes)

Objective: Memorize the SuperVerse with a group activity.

- This is a great verse to memorize! It is only six words and you can quickly speak it in faith wherever you are—in any situation!
- A child will throw the balloon up and say the first word of the SuperVerse, then the next child in the circle should quickly say the second word, and so on. The goal is to complete the entire verse one word at a time—including the reference, if possible—before the balloon falls to the ground.

Prayer: Possible Prayers (5 minutes)

Objective: Communicate with God.

- What wonderful news Gabriel brought to Zechariah. God heard Elizabeth and his prayers, and His answer was a baby boy! There would be much joy and gladness at his humanly impossible birth!
- Is there something today that seems difficult or even impossible? Do you face an assignment at school or a problem at home that you think is impossible to fix? Nothing is impossible with God!
- Allow time for children to pray quietly, and encourage a few of them to pray out loud if they feel comfortable doing so.

ADDITIONAL ACTIVITIES (REFER TO THE LESSON GUIDE FOR DETAILED INSTRUCTIONS)

Word Game: Play a game to reveal miraculous births that God made possible. | **Grades 1–6** | 15 min

Silent Game: Children guess events or characters in the Bible story. | **Grades 1–6** | 15 min

SuperTruth Game: Children play a game to build the SuperTruth. | **Grades 1–3** | 10 min

Bible Study: Children look up verses about incense and prayer. | **Grades 4–6** | 10 min