

# The Birth of John the Baptist: Lesson 2

**SuperTruth:** God's Word never fails.

**SuperVerse:** "You are blessed because you believed that the Lord would do what He said." Luke 1:45 (NLT)

**Bible Story:** Luke 1:1–80

## Game Materials Needed:

- God's Word Never Fails Signs; one copy of each of the four sign patterns
- Whiteboard and marker; or chalkboard and chalk
- Four tennis balls, rubber balls, or any balls that bounce well
- Four medium size boxes or clean trash cans
- Marker
- Painters tape or masking tape
- Two sixth grade helpers or other volunteers to keep score; one for each team
- Timer

## Teaching Materials Needed:

- Miniature dry-erase board that can be thrown away; or a piece of paper
- Colorful dry-erase markers, such as red, green, blue, and/or brown
- Eraser
- Black permanent marker
- Three fifth or sixth grade readers
- Discipleship Challenge craft materials for children who missed Lesson 1: Prayer Journal Cover; Prayer Journal Pages; hole punch; and leather laces, twine, or yarn. See Lesson 1 for details
- Bible or the Superbook Bible App

## SuperVerse Materials Needed:

- Whiteboard and marker; or chalkboard and chalk, eraser
- Bible or the Superbook Bible App

## Prayer Materials Needed:

- Psalm 136 reading sheet
- Whiteboard and marker; or chalkboard and chalk
- Bibles or the Superbook Bible App

## LARGE GROUP / GRADES 1–6

Never is a strong word. It means without exception, not ever, not at any time, not under any conditions. Every word in the Bible is true and will never fail. There are no situations or circumstances that can stop God's Word and cause it to fail.

- 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 this 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.
- Let's watch our Bible Background Video and learn more about the Temple where Zechariah served as a priest and the events surrounding John's birth.

## SMALL GROUP / GRADES 1–6

**Game:** Bouncing Truth (15 minutes)

**Objective:** Play a game to reinforce the SuperTruth.

- It doesn't matter how much time passes, or who tries to stop it—God's Word never fails! That is what today's SuperTruth tells us and that is what our game is all about, so let's bounce!

**Game Instructions:**

- Players bounce two balls on their turn. The goal is to bounce a ball into each box in the correct order of the SuperTruth. Balls that go into a box out of order do not count. The whole team shouts the word when the ball lands in the correct box.

**Teaching:** Failure Is Not an Option (15 minutes)

**Objective:** Discuss how God's Word never fails.

- God's Word and His promises last from generation to generation—they never fail. God had a plan and a purpose for Zechariah and Elizabeth, for John the Baptist, for Joseph and Mary, and for Jesus. And guess what? God has a plan and a purpose for us, too!

**Take Home Activity—Discipleship Challenge (2 minutes)**

- Use the Prayer Journals to write down your praises and prayer requests. You can also write down any thoughts God gives you as you spend time with Him in prayer. Also, record God's answers!

**SuperVerse:** Superbook Fill in the Blanks (5 minutes)

**Objective:** Memorize the SuperVerse with a group activity.

- When Gabriel visited Mary, he gave her news that must have sounded impossible! She would give birth to a baby named Jesus. He would reign forever and His kingdom would never end.
- Read the verse and stop at certain parts—children must shout the next word of the verse. Do the first round with the children facing the board. Read the verse aloud and stop before keywords. Next, play another round, but have the children turn around with their backs to the board.

**Prayer:** Unfailing Prayers (5 minutes)

**Objective:** Communicate with God.

- When we speak and pray God's Word, it builds and strengthens our faith!
- Let's praise and thank God in our responsive reading and prayer from Psalm 136 (CEV). I will read the first part of the verse and you will respond with the second part of the verse. My reading will be different each time, but your response will always be the same: God's love never fails.

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

**Details Game:** Children spot details from Superbook scenes. | **Grades 1–6** | 10 min

**Object Lesson:** Compare God's unfailing Word to things in this world. | **Grades 1–6** | 10 min

**Craft:** Children scratch names into wax and then reveal them. | **Grades 1–3** | 15 min

**Bible Study:** Children discuss verses about God's unfailing Word. | **Grades 4–6** | 15 min