

His Name Is John



Luke 1:18–25, 57–66 · This week: Be It unto Me According to Thy Word, Matthew 1; Luke 1

In the manual: **Come, Follow Me lesson 01, “Be It unto Me According to Thy Word,” on Gospel Library**

START

Zacharias was unable to speak for months. When his son was eight days old, he asked for something to write on and wrote four words (Luke 1:63).

READ TOGETHER

When the angel promised a son, Zacharias asked, “Whereby shall I know this?” (Luke 1:18). The angel, Gabriel, told him he would be unable to speak until the promise was fulfilled (Luke 1:19–20).

LUKE 1:59–64

⁵⁹ And it came to pass, that on the eighth day they came to circumcise the child; and they called him Zacharias, after the name of his father. ⁶⁰ And his mother answered and said, Not so; but he shall be called John. ⁶¹ And they said unto her, There is none of thy kindred that is called by this name. ⁶² And they made signs to his father, how he would have him called. ⁶³ And he asked for a writing table, and wrote, saying, His name is John. And they marvelled all. ⁶⁴ And his mouth was opened immediately, and his tongue loosed, and he spake, and praised God.

WHAT IT TEACHES

Elisabeth stayed out of sight for five months and rejoiced that the Lord had “looked on me, to take away my reproach among men” (Luke 1:24–25). When the baby came, her neighbors and cousins rejoiced with her (Luke 1:58).

The relatives expected the boy to be named after his father. Elisabeth said he would be called John, and they turned to Zacharias (Luke 1:59–62). The angel had given that name months before (Luke 1:13).

Zacharias wrote, “His name is John.” Then “his mouth was opened immediately, and his tongue loosed, and he spake, and praised God” (Luke 1:63–64). After the long silence, his first act was to obey the angel, and his first words were praise.

People all through the hill country asked, “What manner of child shall this be!” (Luke 1:65–66). About thirty years later, this child would baptize Jesus.

TALK ABOUT IT

Zacharias had months of silence to think about the angel’s words. What helps you trust the Lord again after a time when you doubted?

TAKE TO CHURCH

After months of silence, Zacharias wrote “His name is John” and then praised God. The Lord gave him another chance to show his faith, and he took it.