

This resource is designed to allow your family to have time in God's Word **BEFORE** your children attend church. Because God's plan is for **parents to be the primary spiritual nurturers** of their children's faith, *we want YOU to be the one to introduce* this part of The Big God Story to them.

For additional support in spiritual parenting and to learn more about creating transforming environments in your home, be sure to pick up **HomeFront: A Spiritual Parenting Resource** from your church or download at HomeFrontMag.com. You can also access the HomeFront app for your iPhone, iPad, or Android device.



2.1

GOD IS A PROMISE KEEPER

Luke 1:26-38; 46-55

God loves His people so much that He promised to send a Savior who would heal our broken world. God fulfilled His promise by sending His Son, Jesus. God's angel Gabriel appeared to Mary to declare that she had been chosen to bear God's Son. Gabriel told her that Jesus would fulfill the promises and prophecies God made.

JUST FOR FUN

Read this part of The Big God Story at bedtime. Before reading this passage, ask your children if they can remember the promise God made to Adam and Eve back in the garden. Encourage them to think about how God continually promised His people that He would send them a Redeemer. Then read the account of Mary and the angel Gabriel in Luke 1:26-38. Discuss together Mary's response to what the angel told her. Take time to allow each family member to share how he would respond if an angel appeared and told him this great news.

Did You Know?

- The first reference of God's promise to send a Redeemer is found in Genesis 3:15. Here God promises the serpent that the offspring of the woman would crush its head.
- When the angel Gabriel visited Mary to deliver the news of Jesus' birth, she was afraid and confused.
- After Gabriel delivered the news to Mary, she visited with her cousin Elizabeth who was going to have her own baby, John the Baptist.

Remember Verse

Lord, you are my God; I will exalt you and praise your name, for in perfect faithfulness you have done wonderful things, things planned long ago.

Isaiah 25:1

Your children learn to trust God's promises by first learning that they can trust the promises of those who are closest to them. Do all you can to keep the promises you make to your child—no matter how big or small.

Teachable Moments

- What do you think it was like for Mary to see and speak with an angel?
- Why did God send His Son Jesus into the world?
- How does it make you feel to know that you can count on God to always keep His promises?

Blessing

For more information about blessing your child, see the Blessing section in **HomeFront: A Spiritual Parenting Resource**.

A blessing to pray over your child:

(Child's name), may you be filled with God's love! Remember that God will keep His promises and always be with you.