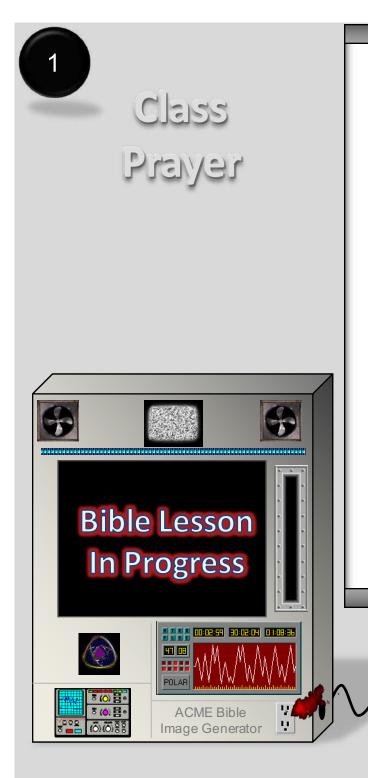


Lesson 3

Birth Announcements



Prayer Requests

Praise

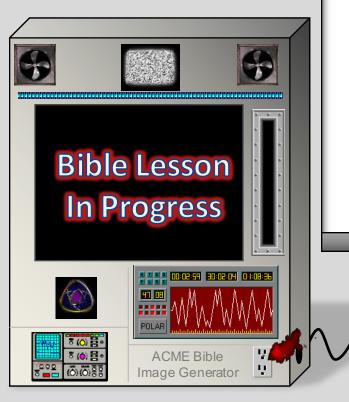
Thanksgiving

Concern

Grow up to be like Jesus

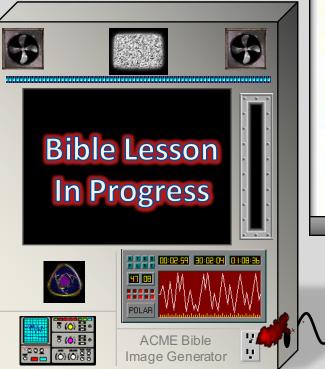


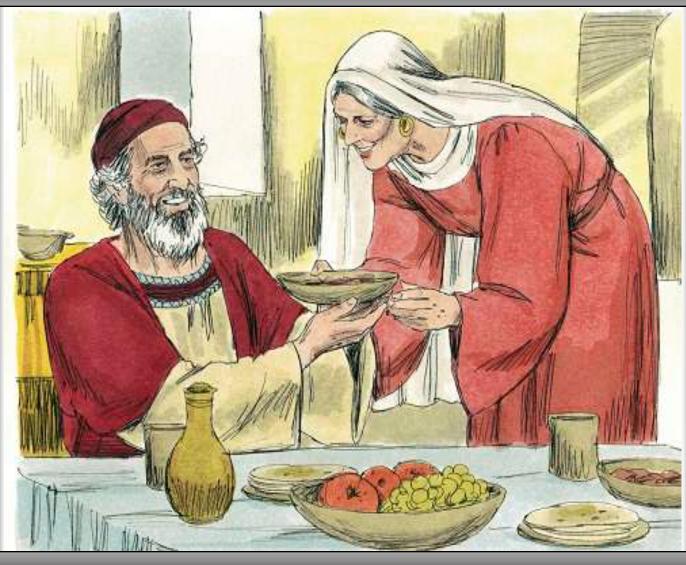




The story of Elizabeth and Zechariah

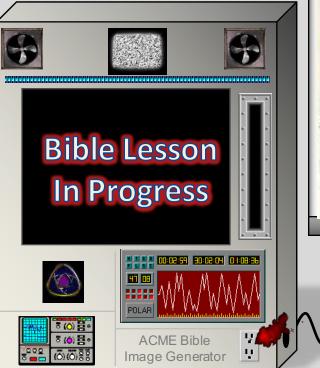
Luke 1:5-7

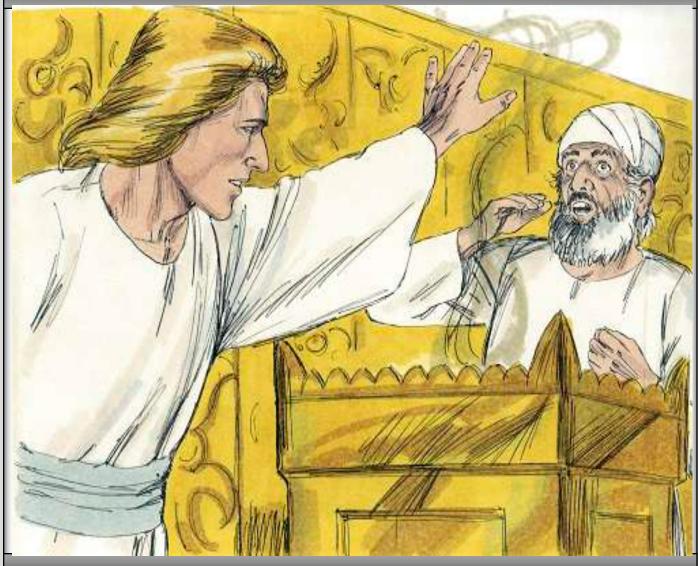




Elizabeth and Zechariah were upright in the sight of God, observing all the Lord's commandments....But they had no children and both were well along in years.

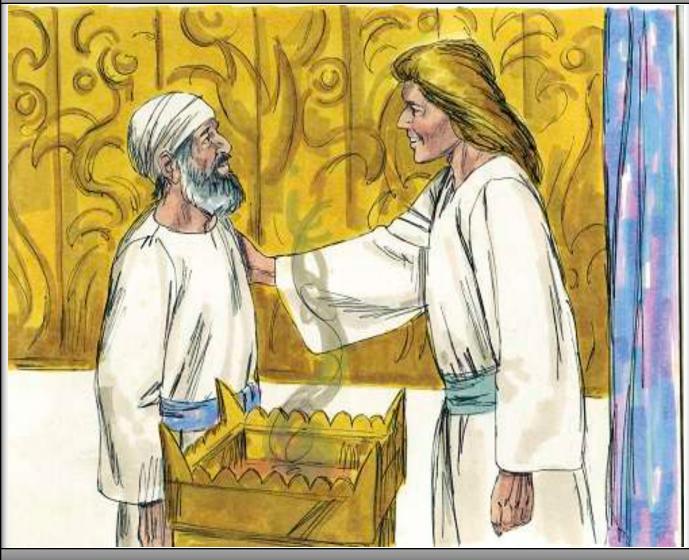
Luke 1:3-11





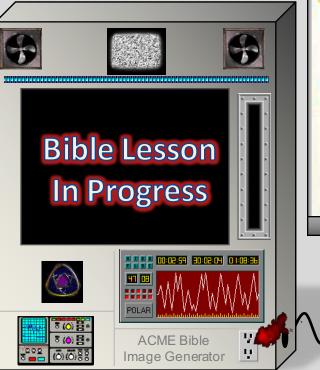
Once when Zechariah was serving in the temple of the Lord an angel appeared to him. When Zechariah saw him he was startled and gripped with fear.

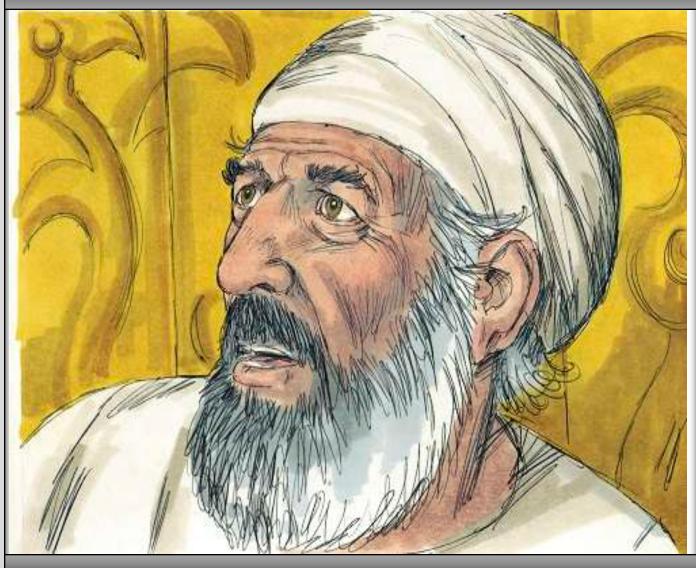




The angel said, Zechariah your prayer has been heard. Your wife will bear you a son and you will give him the name John.

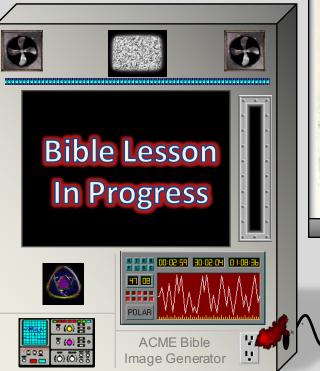
6

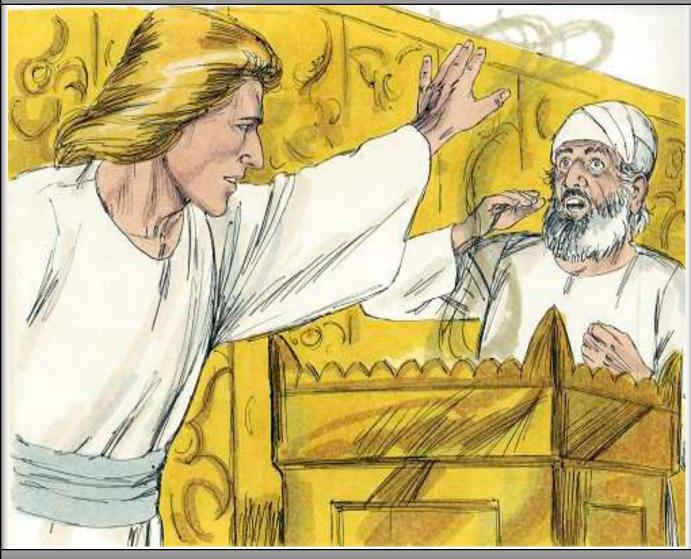




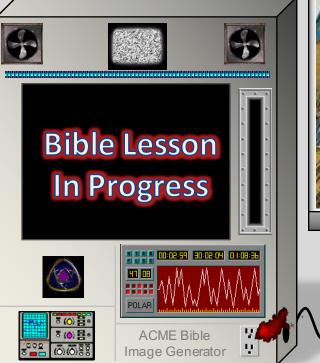
Zechariah asked the angel, "How can I be sure of this? I am an old man and my wife is well along in years.

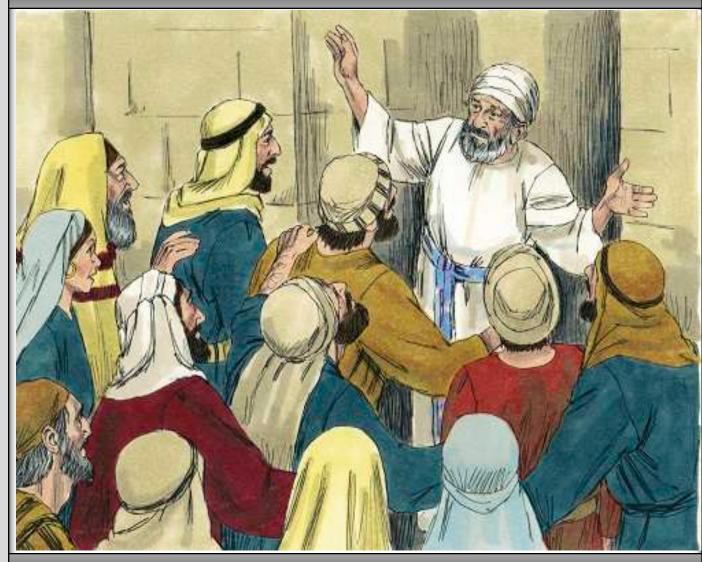
7



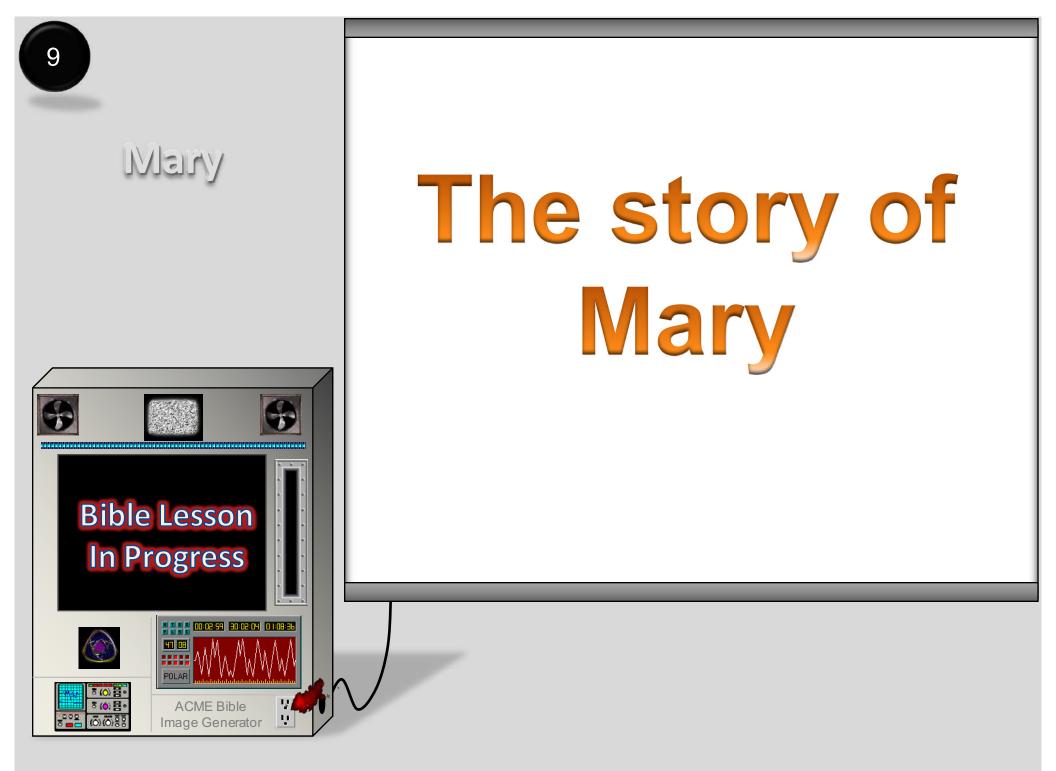


The angel said, you will not be able to speak until the day this happens, because you did not believe my words.

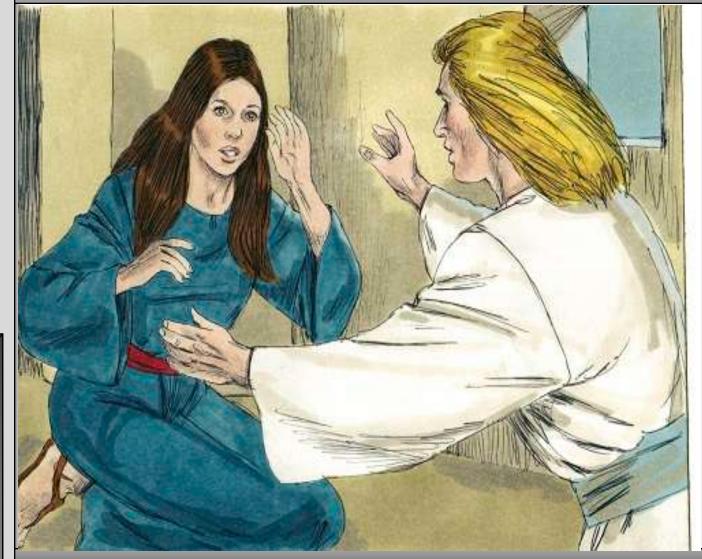




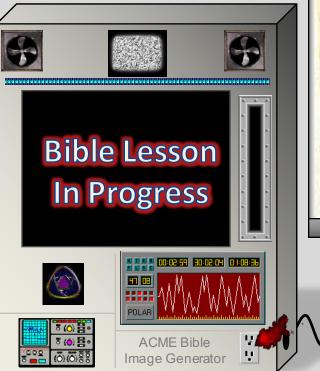
When Zechariah came out, he could not speak to those waiting outside. They realized he had seen a vision.

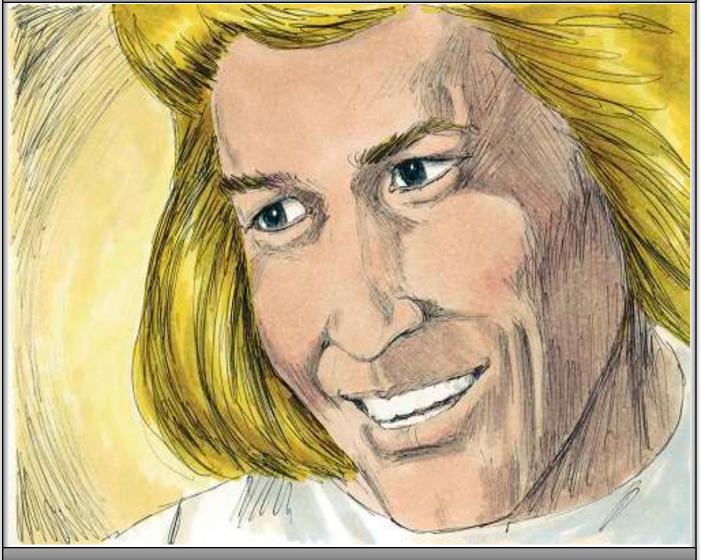




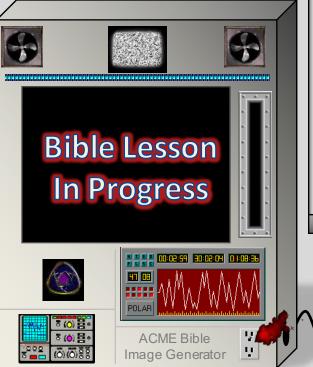


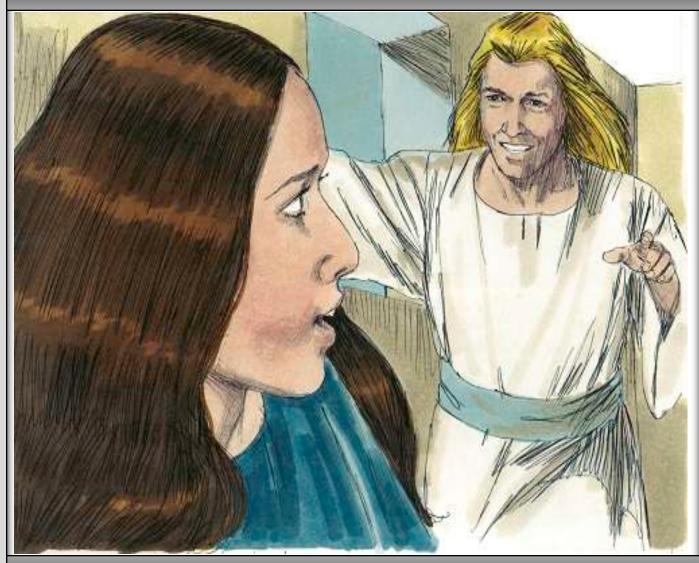
God sent the angel Gabriel to Nazareth, a town in Galilee, to a virgin pledged to be married to a man named Joseph.



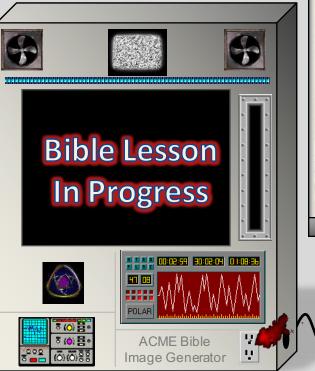


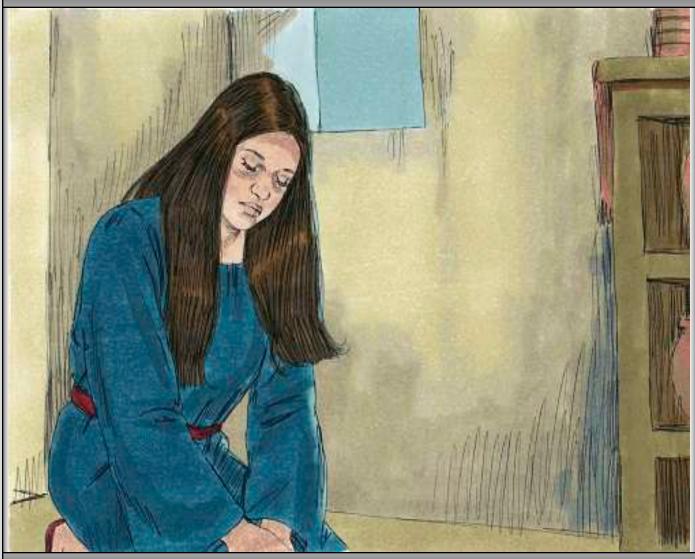
The angel said, "Do not be afraid. You will be with child and give birth to a son, and you are to give him the name Jesus."





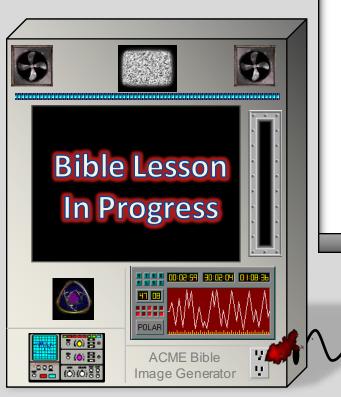
"How will this be," Mary asked the angel, "since I am a virgin?" The angel answered, "The Holy Spirit will come upon you and the power of the Most High will overshadow you."





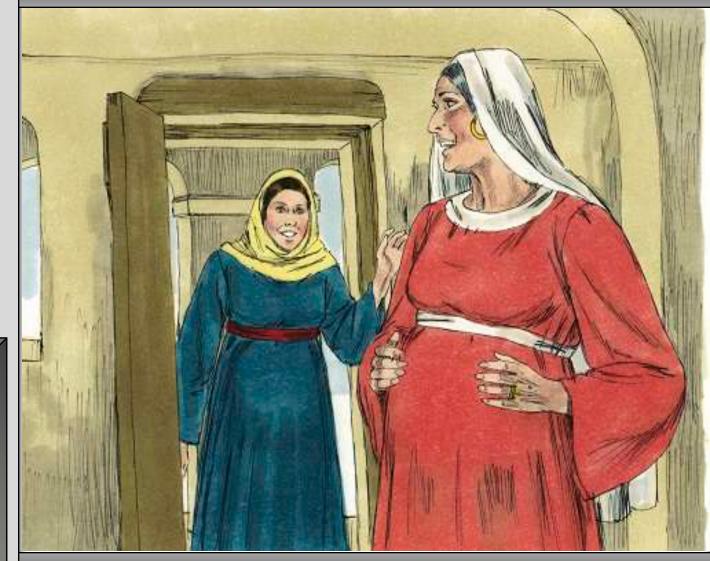
"I am the Lord's servant," Mary answered, "May it be to me as you have said."



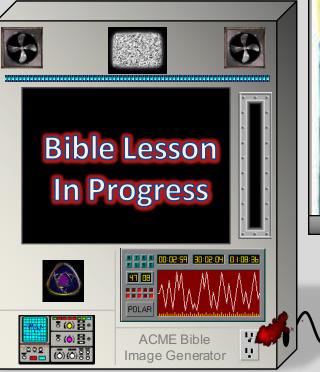


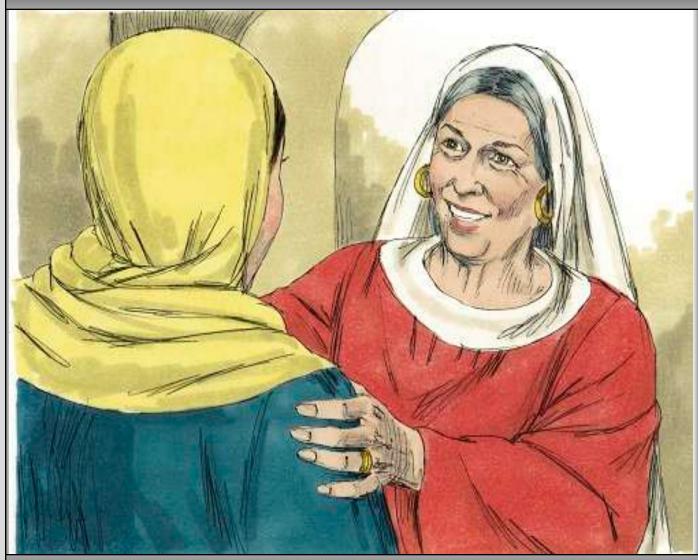
Mary Visits Elizabeth





When Elizabeth heard Mary's greeting, the baby leaped in her womb, and Elizabeth was filled with the Holy Spirit.





In a loud voice Elizabeth exclaimed, "Blessed are you among women, and blessed is the child you will bear!"



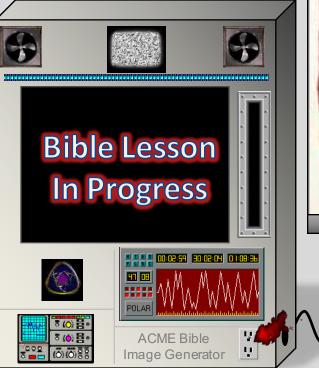


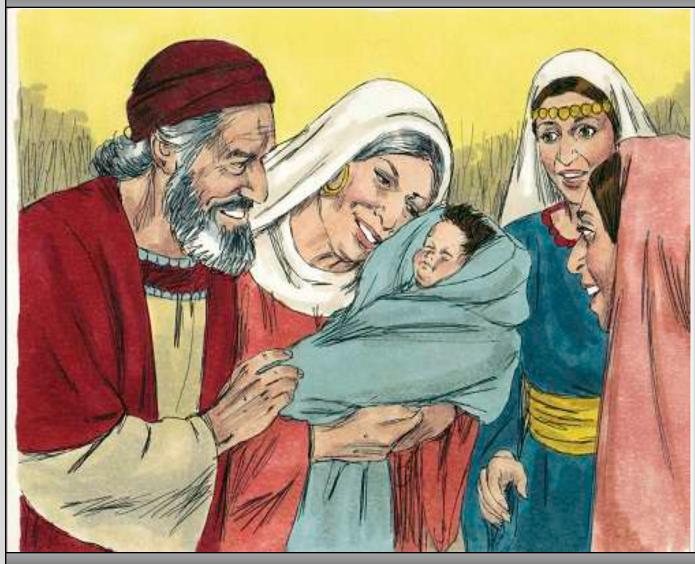
Mary stayed with Elizabeth for about three months and then returned home.



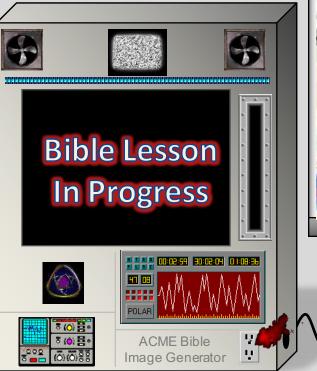
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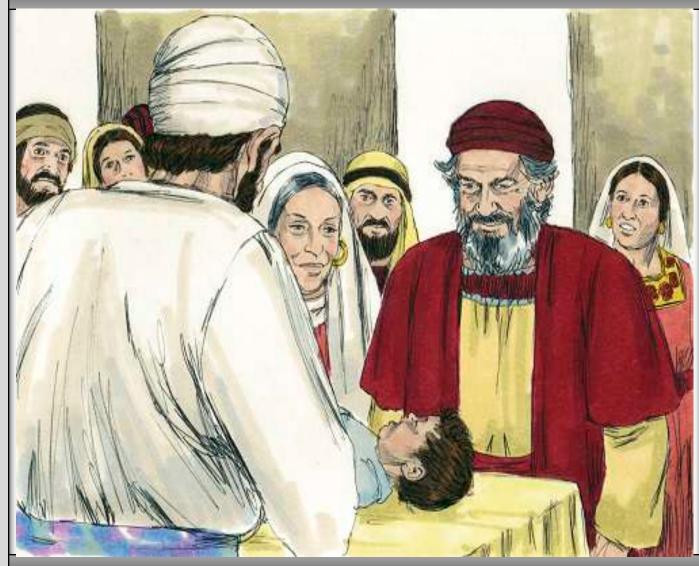
Birth of John the Baptist



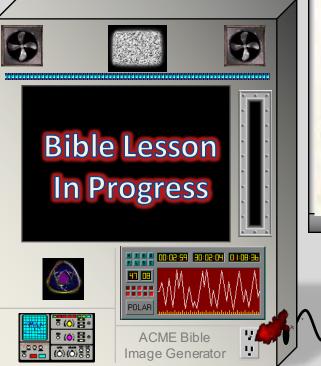


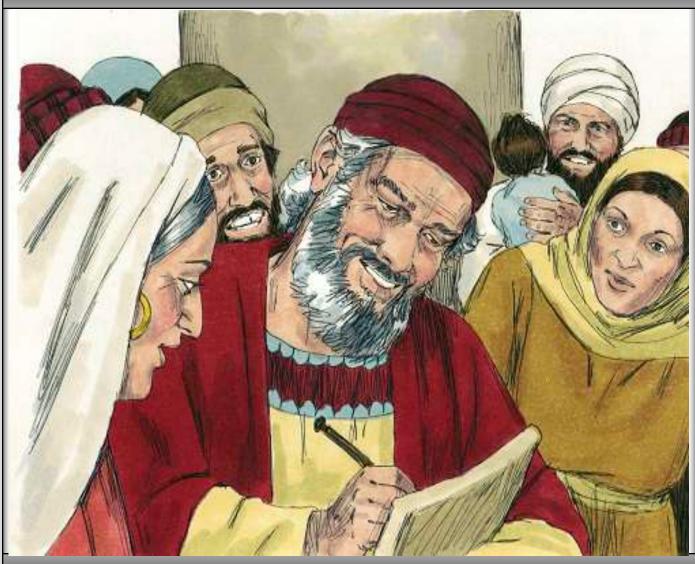
When it was time for Elizabeth to have her baby, she gave birth to a son. Her neighbors and relatives heard that the Lord had shown her great mercy, and they shared her joy.





On the eighth day they came to circumcise the child, and they were going to name him after his father Zechariah.





Zechariah asked for a writing tablet, and to everyone's astonishment he wrote, "His name is John." Immediately his mouth was opened and he could speak again.