Jesus God Who Came to Earth

Lesson Four: Jesus is the Promised Savior

Character Review

Faith is the opposite of doubting. Another word for faith is conviction. *Conviction is holding a value or belief* so firmly that it influences my attitudes and actions. Conviction inspires faith, confidence, optimism, enthusiasm, persuasiveness. A lack of conviction brings apathy and doubt.*

Zechariah doubted when the angel of the Lord told him that he would have a son. Mary also was surprised to hear that she would have a son when the angel announced the news to her. The difference was that she didn't doubt what God could do, even though she also had questions like Zechariah.

We can ask God questions without doubting because we can be absolutely sure that no matter what happens, God is God. He will continue to be loving, all powerful and all knowing, giving justice, grace and mercy.

*Character Solutions: Christlikeness Bible Guide, pg. 4.

Pre-Club Activity Option

I doubt it. Can you show me?

Choose several clubbers ahead of time who can do something like:

- Add two 3-digit numbers.
- Stand on one foot 10 seconds.
- Spell a hard word.
- Say a long memory verse perfectly.
- Give a definition of a hard word.
- Tell the difference between *remorse* and *repentance*. (Remorse is feeling really bad about your sin. Repentance is actually changing your mind and actions about what you are doing.)

Let the clubbers prove in front of everyone that they can do it.

Then share: How did you feel when I said that I doubted that you could do what you knew you could do? What if I still didn't believe you could do it, even after you showed me?

Think about what God can do. How often do we doubt Him? We don't believe Him? Even when He shows us what He can do, sometimes we still don't believe Him.

Reassure the clubbers that you really do believe that they can do many things because God has made them excellent learners. This is just a role play to help them understand a deeper concept.

Do you want to believe the truth or a lie? Why can it be dangerous to believe a lie? Why can we be confident to believe God? He always tells the truth.

In today's lesson God sent someone really good news. He actually answered this person's prayer for something that was extremely important to him. Yet this person did not believe God's message. **He doubted.** Let's find out who that was and what happened to him when he doubted.

The follow-up song for this activity is: Sometimes God Answers Yes When I Pray.

Rhyming Review

- 1. Zacharias was a priest and Elizabeth was his wife. God had a very special plan for their life.
- 2. Just like Sarah in the Old Testament, Elizabeth would have a son in her old age. John would <u>come</u> and let all the world know of the coming of God's <u>Son</u>.
- 3. When Zacharias did not believe the angel Gabriel about John being born, he then was unable to <u>speak</u>. This made him humble and meek.
- 4. Like John, we can point to Jesus with our lives for others, for our sisters and our brothers.
- 5. People would come to be baptized by John each <u>day</u>. They wanted to show a turning point in their lives, to follow God in what they do and what they <u>say</u>.
- 6. When Jesus was baptized, the Holy Spirit came upon Him like a <u>dove</u>. Then God spoke from heaven saying, "This is the Son I <u>love</u>. With Him I am well pleased."

Naming the Babies: