

THE BIRTHS OF JOHN AND JESUS

Luke 1:1-2:52

Guide \_\_\_\_\_

The angel said to them, “Do not be afraid; for see—I am bringing you good news of great joy for all the people: to you is born this day in the city of David a Savior, who is Christ the Lord.” — Luke 2:10-11

All through Luke’s Gospel we see how Jesus keeps on encouraging people, even if they are not very important people. As you read through the familiar Christmas stories in **Luke 1:1-2:52**, match the different kinds of people who received the good news of Jesus.

Some Unimportant People . . .

\_\_\_\_\_ (1) Theophilus

A. An unmarried teenage girl

\_\_\_\_\_ (2) Zechariah

B. An old God-fearing man in Jerusalem

C. An old priest from southern Judea

D. A carpenter from northern Galilee

E. A Roman citizen who was confused

\_\_\_\_\_ (3) Elizabeth

F. A widowed prophetess in the Temple

G. An old woman who couldn’t have children

\_\_\_\_\_ (4) Mary

. . . And How They Got the News

H. Let his wife give birth in a stable

I. Received a book from Luke

\_\_\_\_\_ (5) Joseph

J. Saw the Messiah before he died

K. Became pregnant when she was old

L. Was struck dumb while worshipping

\_\_\_\_\_ (6) Simeon

M. Found the Savior while worshipping

N. Became pregnant without a husband

\_\_\_\_\_ (7) Anna

(8) By the way, who was Gabriel?  
(Circle the two people in the list above to whom he talked.)

Three other groups of people are also mentioned in these stories. Match them with the boys they saw and with their reactions.

_____	(9) neighbors	<u>Whom they saw . . .</u>
_____		O. Jesus
_____		P. John
_____	(10) shepherds	<u>. . . and How They Reacted</u>
_____		Q. Were surprised by the boy's intelligence
_____	(11) teachers	R. Wanted to give him the wrong name
_____		S. Went to town and told everybody

(12) According to **Luke 1:13-17**, what is the most important thing you can say about John?

(13) According to **Luke 1:29-37**, what is the most important thing you can say about Jesus?

(14) These two chapters are interrupted by several songs, also known as "canticles."  
Circle one of them and tell why or when we should sing it in church.

Mary's Song  
*Magnificat*  
**Luke 1:46-55**

Zechariah's Song  
*Benedictus*  
**Luke 1:68-79**

The Angels' Song  
*Gloria in Excelsis*  
**Luke 2:14**

Simeon's Song  
*Nunc Dimittis*  
**Luke 2:29-32**