

# ZECHARIAH - ZECHARIAH THE PROPHET

## KIDS' LIFEGROUP GUIDE

WEEK: 1/19/20 - 1/25/20

### OVERVIEW:

- **Part 1:** Catch Up On Life (15 Minutes)
- **Part 2:** Kidtown Lesson Review (15 Minutes)
- **Part 3:** Reflection (15 Minutes)
  - Optional - Part 3a: Lesson Activity (10 Minutes)
  - Optional - Part 3b: Snack (5 Minutes)
  - Optional - Part 3c: Sing (5 Minutes)
- **Part 4:** Prayer Time! (20 Minutes)

### PART 1: CATCH UP ON LIFE (15 minutes)

**Setting:** Sit in a circle with kids and adults interspersed! Adults sitting amongst the kids helps everyone engage and pay attention. Parents - you are always responsible for your kids, but you're also looking to engage with other kids in your group.

- *Leader Note: If your group eats dinner with your kids, this is the best part of the guide to do together while you eat. Add 15 minutes for everyone to get their plates and start eating. Then shift into intentional conversation as the kids are starting to finish their food.*

**Vision:** God calls the church -- and our LifeGroup -- to be family! Because of this, we want our kids to know our adults and our adults to know our kids. The best way to get to know each other is to ask each other questions and tell each other about our lives.

- *Leader note: While you're getting started, have an adult -- or older kid -- read this vision statement. After you've done it for a while, you can ask kids if they remember why we ask each other questions. Help them to remember that God's making us family, so we want to get to know each other.*

#### Questions:

- 1.) What was your high and low from the week?
- 2.) **Kids Pick!** Let each kid ask the adults in the group one question.
  - Click [here](#) for a bank of questions for Kids to ask Adults if they're having a hard time thinking of any.
- 3.) **Adults Pick!** Have each adult ask the kids in the group one question.
  - Click [here](#) for a bank of questions for Adults to ask Kids if they're having a hard time thinking of any.

## PART 2: KIDTOWN LESSON REVIEW (15 minutes)

**Vision:** God uses the Bible to show Himself to us. He also uses it to help us love Him and others better. We don't only want to learn *about* the Bible; we're also called to apply it to our lives -- to change the way we think (Head), what we love and value (Heart) and what we do (Hands).

- *Leader note: While you're getting started, have an adult -- or older kid -- read this vision statement. After you've done it for a while, ask kids if they remember why we study the Bible.*

**Lesson:** Zechariah the Prophet

**Bible Passages:** Zechariah

### REVIEW:

- 1.) **Kids what do you remember from the story you learned about on Sunday?** (Pause and let them think of what they can remember.)
- 2.) **Can anyone remember the main characters?**
  - God/Jesus! (*Leader Note: Almost always a right answer. Helps reinforce that the entire Bible is about God and points forward to Jesus*)
  - Zechariah, all the different people and characters in his visions, God's people
- 3.) **Ok, does anyone remember any of the story points?**

**Story Point #1:** God sent Z to encourage His people to keep rebuilding the temple.  
**Story Point #2:** God gave Z visions to share with His people.  
**Story Point #3:** Z's main vision was that a king was coming!
- 4.) **Awesome! And can anyone remember how this story connected to Jesus?**

**Christ Connection:** Jesus is the King that Z promised.

**Transition:** That was awesome! Y'all did a great job remembering. Ok let's watch the video and see if we remember anything we forgot or notice anything new this time.

### WATCH THE VIDEO STORY:

Click [here](#) to watch the Gospel Project Video Story.

### TALK THROUGH THE STORY POINTS:

*Leader Note: If your kids are younger, it helps to give them journals. For each question, have them write their answers first and then go around the circle and share.*

**Leader Note:** Say each story point and have the kids repeat it.

**Story Point #1:** God sent Z to encourage His people to keep rebuilding the temple.

- Question: Why do you think God's people needed encouragement? *Let them use their imagination. Building is hard! We all get discouraged at some point.*
- Question: What is a time that you have needed encouragement? *Adults, answer first, then let the kids.*

## PART 2: KIDTOWN LESSON REVIEW (CONTINUED)

### Story Point #2: God gave Z visions to share with His people.

- Question: One person at a time, who can tell me one of the visions?
- Question: Did you have a favorite vision?

### Story Point #3: Z's main vision was that a king was coming.

- Question: This is getting ahead of ourselves a little bit, but who do y'all think was the king that Z was talking about? *Jesus!*
- Read: Have someone read Zechariah 9:9 out loud.
- Question: How was this king described? *Humble, riding on a donkey.*

### REVIEW THE CHRIST CONNECTION AND APPLY IT:

#### Christ Connection: Jesus is the King that Z promised!

- Teach: Remember, God's people back then didn't have what we have. Jesus hadn't come yet! We have the New Testament in which we see that Jesus came and was the Savior and King that we have heard about all over the Old Testament. He fulfilled every prophecy—including riding on a donkey—and died on the cross for our sins!
- Pray: Let's pause right now and thank God for this!

#### Main Application(s): Because life is discouraging, God wants us to encourage each other.

- Adults first then kids - Who has God used to encourage you? (Hint: Their parents!)
- Adults first then kids - Who do you know that is going through a difficult time? How can God use you to encourage them?
- Practice: For older kids, encourage them and then lead them to encourage one another with something true that God says about them, even if it's as simple as having them repeat after you. For younger kids, you might need to just have them repeat after you. Examples include...
  - "Sally, even when life is hard, God is always at work."
  - "Johnny, God always keeps His promises."
  - "Betty, God has already sent the best King for you!"

### PRACTICE THE KEY PASSAGE:

Ask any of the kids if they can remember the key passage. Help lead them through it leaving out words and see if they can fill them in.

For I know the plans I have for you—this is the Lord's declaration—plans for your well-being, not for disaster, to give you a future and a hope.

**Jeremiah 29:11**

## PART 3: REFLECTION (10 minutes)

Distribute a sheet of paper to each child or tell them to get their journals. Ask the kids to write about or draw a picture to answer the following questions:

- What does this story teach me about God or about the gospel?
- What does this story teach me about myself?
- What is one thing I need to do in light of this story? (Help the kids think of ways they can grow, how they might pray for help or practical steps of repentance they can take.)

After the kids have had time to write down their reflection questions, go around the circle and share one at a time (kids and adults).

## OPTIONAL - PART 3a: LESSON ACTIVITY (10 minutes)

### OPTION 1: “I had a dream that I could ...”

Invite the kids to sit in a circle with one kid in the middle. Provide enough chairs for everyone in the circle but not the kid in the middle. The middle kid will say, “I had a dream that I could \_\_\_\_,” and state something that she is able to do, tie her shoe, play an instrument, or another activity. The kids around the circle who are able to do that activity will move to find another chair. The kid in the middle must sit in a chair that becomes empty. Whoever is left standing will be the next “dreamer” in the middle of the circle.

Say • Sometimes we have strange dreams about things that are impossible to actually do. Other times dreams are very realistic. Our story today includes some visions that Zechariah the prophet had. His visions seemed really bizarre, but they actually pointed to future events.

### OPTION 2: Find the scroll.

Cut a strip of copy paper. Roll up the strip tightly. Invite children to sit in a circle on the floor. Show them how to hold their hands behind them. Instruct them to close their eyes. Tiptoe around the circle and put the tiny “scroll” in a child’s hand. Invite the children to open their eyes, keeping their hands behind their backs. Allow children to take turns guessing who is holding the scroll. Repeat as time allows.

Say • In today’s Bible story, God gave the prophet Zechariah eight visions. A vision is like a dream, but Zechariah was awake. Each message was a special message for God’s people. God was letting His people know what He was going to do. In one of those visions, Zechariah saw a flying scroll! Listen to our Bible story to hear what else God showed Zechariah.

## OPTIONAL - PART 3b: SNACK (5 minutes)

If your group doesn’t eat dinner together, now is a great time to stop for a snack break before spending time praying together and talking about living on mission. For Kidtown we keep snacks simple with Goldfish for most kids and Gummy snacks in case a kid has Gluten allergies.

## OPTIONAL - PART 3c: SING (5 minutes)

Play one or more of these videos and sing and dance along!

- [Encourage One Another](#) by Steve Green (This is an old video and song but great for your younger kids learning this Scripture!)
- [A Future and A Hope](#) (Key Passage Song)

## PART 4: PRAYER TIME! (20 minutes)

### PRAY FOR EACH OTHER: (10 minutes)

**Vision:** God calls His people to love each other, pray for each other and help each other carry burdens.

**Questions to Ask** (pick 1):

- How do you need prayer this week?
- What is one thing you need Jesus to help you with this week?
- What is one way you're hoping Jesus will help you grow this week?

**Pray:** Invite each kid to write down the other kids' prayer requests. Then have each kid pray for the person on their right!

### PRAY FOR JESUS' MISSION: (10 minutes)

**Vision:** God calls His people to share with others the good news of Jesus. This means that we try to love others with our actions and with our words. We want all our friends to know about Jesus and His great love for them.

**Questions to Ask** (pick 1):

- What friends or neighbors of yours can we pray for today?
- How can you show God's love this week to someone who might not know Him?
- Who could we invite to do something fun with our LifeGroup friends this month?

**Pray:** Invite each kid to pray for their friends or someone else's friend to come to know Jesus. Have one adult close out the time, thanking God for how we get to be family together and asking God to bring more people into His family!