

Preschool Story 8a

John the Baptist (John 1:19-28)

Time to get ready

Are you ready?
Are you ready for a story?
Are you ready for surprises?
Are you ready for something new?
Are you ready?

[This is John, this is Jesus
They are cousins
John's mum is Elizabeth
Jesus' Mum is Mary
Elizabeth is old
Mary is young]

Elizabeth and her husband Zechariah get a strange message from God
"Time to get ready! Ready for something new. Ready for surprises! You are going to have a baby!"

Mary and her fiancé Joseph get a strange message from God
"Time to get ready! Ready for something new. Ready for surprises! You are going to have a baby!"

When Elizabeth said "I'm having a baby!"
Her friends were shocked and surprised.
You're too old! They said

When Mary said "I'm having a Baby!"
Her friends were shocked and surprised.
You're too young! (and not yet married) They said.

But Elizabeth said 'It's ok. This is something from God. It will be scary and wonderful and difficult and amazing for us all. So let's get ready for God.'

And Mary said "It's ok. This is something from God. It will be scary and wonderful and difficult and amazing for us all. So let's get ready for God."

Elizabeth has baby John and he is...unusual

He grows up and lives in the desert, he wears camel hair clothes and eats locusts and honey
And he calls out "Time to get ready. Ready for surprises, ready for something new. Time to
get ready for God!"

People come to hear what he says.

How shall we get ready? They ask

"Make the crooked straight and the rough places smooth."

(Get fair, don't be bullies, give others a shot, share stuff around.)

Mary has baby Jesus and he is...an ordinary kid.

He grows up and lives in the village, he wears regular clothes and eats the food that
everyone likes.

But soon comes the time, when Jesus gets ready.

He hears John calling out

"Time to get ready.

Ready for surprises.

Ready for something new.

Time to get ready for God!"

Jesus says "I'm ready."

Are we ready?