

PROPHECIES FULFILLED

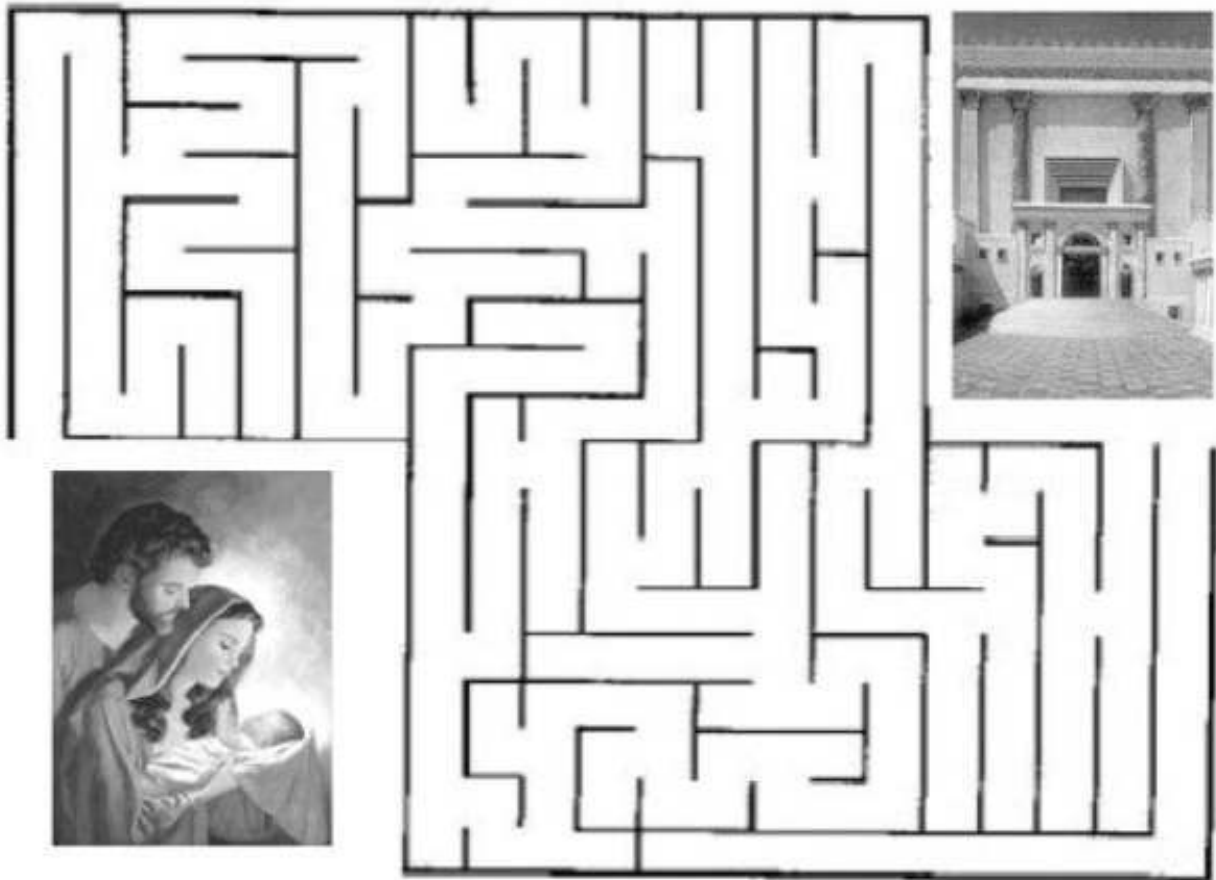
Eight days after His birth, the baby was named Jesus. Joseph and Mary presented him to God at the temple as Moses' Law said. There were two special people there: Simeon, a righteous man, and Anna, a prophetess. They knew God's promises and were waiting for Messiah. When they saw the baby, they knew that He was the one they were waiting for. They were very happy to see Him.



“And the child grew and became strong;
he was filled with wisdom, and the grace
of God was upon him. “

Luke 2:40

Can you find the way to the Temple?



Why have Joseph and Mary brought baby Jesus to the Temple when he was so young?



Lesson 5

Prophecies Fulfilled

Bible Text: Luke 2:21-40

Key verse: Luke 2:40

Purpose: the children will understand what happened when the baby Jesus was taken to the Temple and how the prophecies of Simeon were fulfilled.

Please note!

Plan suitable activities for your group of children. The following activities can be adapted depending on the group's size, age, ability, the amount of time available, etc.

LESSON AND ACTIVITIES

I. Lesson

After the children finish the coloring page, the teacher will speak from the Bible about the fulfillment of prophecies, using Luke 2:21-40 as a text, using the story telling method.

Suggestion:

Different methods of story telling can be used to hold the attention of the children. For younger groups, one story telling method would be to use the coloring page or a Bible with brightly colored pictures, pointing to each person when they speak. Voice tone is very important in story telling. Vary your voice for each character: louder, quieter, amazed, joyous, etc. Children are captivated by different voices.

In the Bible we are told of two special people who confirmed the prophecies about the birth of the Savior.

When the baby Jesus was brought to the Temple to be circumcised, a custom of the Jews according to the Law of Moses, a man by the name of Simeon was there. He was a holy man before God. The Spirit of God was on Simeon, and he was looking for the Messiah. The Spirit of the Lord told him that he would not die until he saw the Messiah. So when he saw the baby Jesus, he took him in his arms and blessed him saying, "Sovereign Lord, as you have promised, you now dismiss your servant in peace. For my eyes have seen your salvation, which you have prepared in the sight of all people, a light for revelation to the Gentiles and for glory to your people Israel."

Mary and Joseph were amazed at his words. Then Simeon blessed the parents, speaking about the child saying, "This child is destined to cause the falling and rising of many in Israel, and to be a sign that will be spoken against, so that the thoughts of many hearts will be revealed.

(Refer to the events that happened at the beginning of Jesus' ministry on earth when the Priests, Pharisees and scribes were taken back by the Savior's words and he spent much time with the poor and troubled.)

Then Simeon told Mary, "And a sword will pierce your own soul too." (This refers to Mary's suffering in seeing her son crucified.)

Also there was a prophetess at the temple. She was 84 years old and was always fasting and praying at the Temple. When she saw the baby Jesus she began to praise God and to tell everyone that he is the Savior.

II. Activities

1. Key verse.

“And the child grew and became strong; he was filled with wisdom, and the grace of God was upon him.” Luke 2:40

- a. Read the verse aloud.
- b. Explain the verse to the children. Draw attention to several key words
 - *The child* (refers to baby Jesus, the Son of God)
 - *Grew* (he was like any other child)
 - *Became strong* (he was full of God’s power)
 - *Filled wisdom* (He had wisdom from God)
 - *The grace of God was upon him* (he did great things by God’s Spirit)

Application: If you are a child of God and you grow, become strong and are full of wisdom, God’s favor is on you.

- c. Help the children memorize the key verse using different methods: games, contests, etc.

2. Key questions for review:

- Give the name of a prophet who spoke about the coming of the Messiah.
- What did the parents take the baby Jesus, who was so small, to the Temple?
- Who did Mary and Joseph meet at the Temple?
- What did Simeon say about the child?
- How were Simeon’s words about the baby and Mary fulfilled?
- What did the prophetess Ana do when she saw the baby Jesus?
- How did the child grow?

III. Conclusion

The prophecies about the coming of the Messiah are fulfilled. The Bible, as we have seen in today’s lesson, confirms this. Even the prophetic words of Simeon were fulfilled. Truly Jesus was opposed on the earth and Mary was torn by great pains at the crucifixion of the Savior, just as Simeon said. There are other prophecies in the Bible that are not yet fulfilled, for example, those about Jesus’ return. Those who are his people believe in this prophecy and await the Lord Jesus to come again on the clouds and take them to heaven to the Father. Do you believe this great prophecy? Do you await its fulfillment?