



DOES GOD KEEP HIS PROMISES?

Slide 1

Today we are going to talk about promises. **Slide 2** Has anyone ever made a promise to you? I suppose so! And you, have you already done so? Certainly!

We've all done it, and I don't know if you're like me, but I like people to keep the promise that they made to me. **Slide 3** Something promised is promised! Don't you agree I? Yet sometimes a promise is broken...

So! **Slide 4** We are disappointed, we do not understand and our trust is broken.

Do you know **Slide 5** that God also makes promises? Yes, you know that ... but does He hold them?

Well, that's what we're going to find out now. In this story of **Slide 6** the Gospel of Luke, there are several promises; **Slide 7** it is up to you to count them.

Slide 8 DOES GOD KEEP HIS PROMISES?

Slide 9 Zechariah and his wife Elizabeth love God with all their hearts. All their life they have prayed for a child, **Slide 10** but without an answer and now they are too old.

Slide 11 On that day, Zechariah, who is a priest, is in the temple. He is alone. **Slide 12** Outside, people are waiting for him to come back.

Suddenly, **Slide 13** Zechariah sees an angel, he is frightened.

The angel said to him:

Slide 14 - Do not be afraid, Zechariah, because God has heard your prayer and he is making a promise to you, **Slide 15** you are going to have a son. You will call him John. You will be very happy, as will your wife Elizabeth, but also many other people.

Your child **Slide 16** will be a great man of God filled with the Holy Spirit. He will prepare for the coming of the Savior whom God has long promised.

Slide 17 - But we are too old to have a child, answers Zechariah. How can I be sure what you say is true?

Slide 18 - I'm Gabriel! It is God who sent me to share this good news with you. But, because you don't believe what I just told you, **Slide 19** then you won't be able to speak until the child is born.

Slide 20 Outside, people are worried:

Slide 21 - What's happening?

- Why has Zechariah not left the temple yet?

- What has happened to him?

Slide 22 When Zechariah comes out of the temple he wants to explain to them what happened but ... impossible to speak, he is silent. He waves them with his hands but it not easy...

Slide 23 Sometime later, **Slide 24** joy overwhelms them because Elizabeth is pregnant! In a few months, she will be holding a baby in her arms... a little boy!

Slide 25 When the baby is born, the whole family and neighbours come to visit them. What a handsome boy!

They all say **Slide 26** his name is Zechariah after his daddy.

Slide 27 - Ah! No, said Elizabeth, **Slide 28** his name will be John

Slide 29 - But in your family there is no one called John

The dad is asked to give his opinion.

Slide 30 "His name is John" writes Zechariah

Slide 31 At that moment, his tongue loosens and he begins **Slide 32** to praise God aloud. He thanks **Slide 33** God who always keeps His promises and does such great miracles. He is filled with the Holy Spirit and he **Slide 34** announces things that no one knows:

- Another child will be born soon, he said, it is **Slide 35** the Savior of the world whom God has long promised.

Of course, it announces the coming of Jesus.

Slide 36 Then, turning to his baby, he said:

- You too, John, you will have an important mission; you will be **Slide 37** a great prophet. You will talk about the great love of God and his forgiveness.

Everyone understands that John will not have a life like the others and that very important events are going to happen, which is what we will see in our next stories.

Slide 38 1, 2 3, 4 AND YOU AND ME!

Can we say that **Slide 39** God always keeps his promises? What do you think?

Remember ... **Slide 40** how many promises did God make to Zechariah?...

Yes, there are **Slide 41** 3 promises. **Slide 42** How many times has he kept his promises?

Slide 43 Yes, 3 times!

- The 1st time, he promised a child, and **Slide 44** John was born,
- The 2nd time he told him he would be dumb and when **Slide 45** he came out of the temple he couldn't speak anymore,
- The 3rd time, he promised him that he could speak again and **Slide 46** it happened; so he praised God.

There is also **Slide 47** a 4th promise, but this one is not only for Zechariah, and we will talk about it in our next adventures. **Slide 48** This promise is that of the coming of Jesus.

Slide 49 4, 3, 2, 1 AND WE PARENTS!

Do you have any idea how many promises **Slide 50** God has made to men in the Bible?... No?...

I don't know the exact number either, but I have noticed that there are a lot of them. Some have already been accomplished, others not yet.

What is certain is that he keeps every promise ... he does not forget them. Certainly the most important **Slide 51** is the promise of the Savior's coming that he had made to Adam and Eve after their disobedience...

He also gave us promises of blessing **Slide 52** for our families, our children. We can ask him to bless them and to help us in our responsibilities as parents.

Slide 53