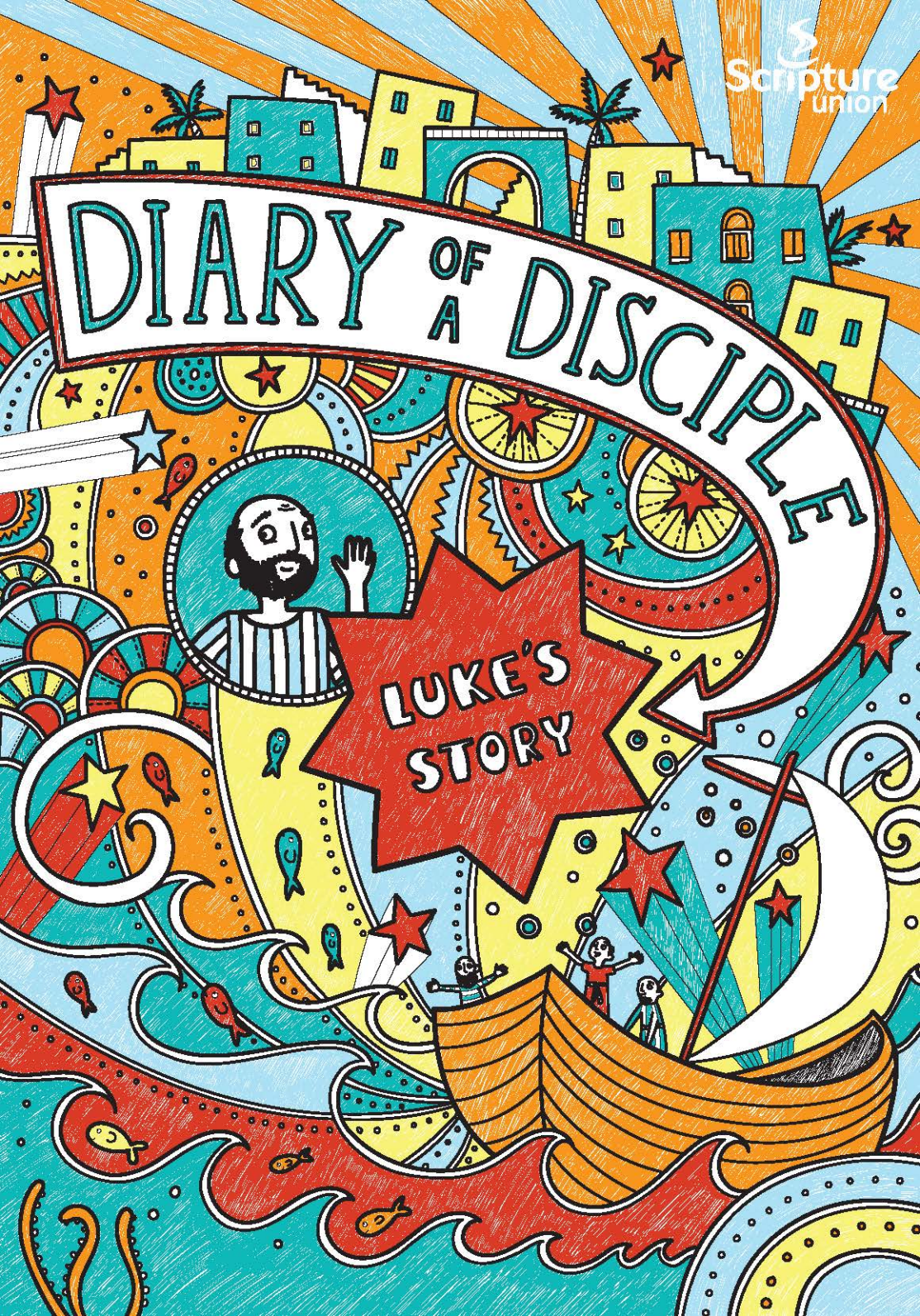


# DIARY OF A DISCIPLE

LUKE'S  
STORY





# CHAPTER 1

FANCY A CHAT?  
SAMPLE





# GOOD EVENING,

and a very warm welcome to my

MARVELLOUS STORY.

My name is Luke. Dr Luke, actually.

And I have been carefully *investigating* a series of mysterious events. And because I'm

a bit of a **NERD**, I've decided to write all of my investigations down, just for you. Lots

of other people have tried to write it all down before,

but I want you to hear *my* side of the



SO,

it all starts with a woman called Elizabeth.

# FACT FILE



NAME: Elizabeth

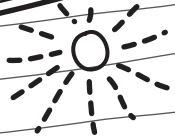
FAMILY: Zechariah (husband)

Mary (cousin)

NUMBER OF CHILDREN: 0

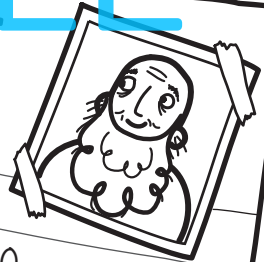
AGE: Very old

LOCATION: Lives in a little house up a hill in Judea



# SAMPLE

# FACT FILE



NAME: Zechariah

FAMILY: Elizabeth (wife)

NUMBER OF CHILDREN: 0

AGE: Very old

LOCATION: Very important Temple in Jerusalem



Elizabeth was very old. She was married to



Zechariah (who was also very old), who was a kind of

special religious leader **GUY** and he worked with a group

of other special vicars who took it in turns to burn

'smelly stuff' in the **TEMPLE**

(kind of like a Jewish church). **ANYWAY** it was



Zechariah's turn to do the burning (he burned incense — that's the 'smelly stuff' — as a way of helping people

to **WORSHIP** God) and while he was inside on his

own, something

**ABSOLUTELY**  
"TERRIFYING" happened.

A large, glowing, bright man-shaped thing appeared out of nowhere and said,



"DON'T BE SCARED."

Ha ha. "Don't be scared"??

I mean, SERIOUSLY

a big glowing man just appeared  
and fancied a chat!

Zechariah was **TERRIFIED**,  
**FROZEN** to the spot,

and when he heard what  
the man had to say he just

couldn't believe his  
"? "ears"?

The man said, "You and your wife are going to have a

 **BABY** called **John**." Zechariah thought this

guy was **crazy**, and pretty much told him so

— which was a bit of a mistake. **oops**.

Because then the man introduced himself as the

 **ANGEL GABRIEL**

(still scary!) and told Zechariah he'd not be able to

 talk  until John was born.

**NOTE TO SELF** — always listen to what angels say,  
**AND DO AS TOLD.**

As a **Doctor** I can tell you that I'd have thought it all sounded a bit **crazy** too, I mean super **old people**

don't just suddenly start having babies.

It doesn't **WORK** that way!



Poor Zechariah had to invent his **own** version of



so that he could tell everyone what had happened to him.

When he **FINALLY**  got home to Elizabeth and

managed to wave his arms around enough so that she could



understand what had happened, she was even more



than he was.

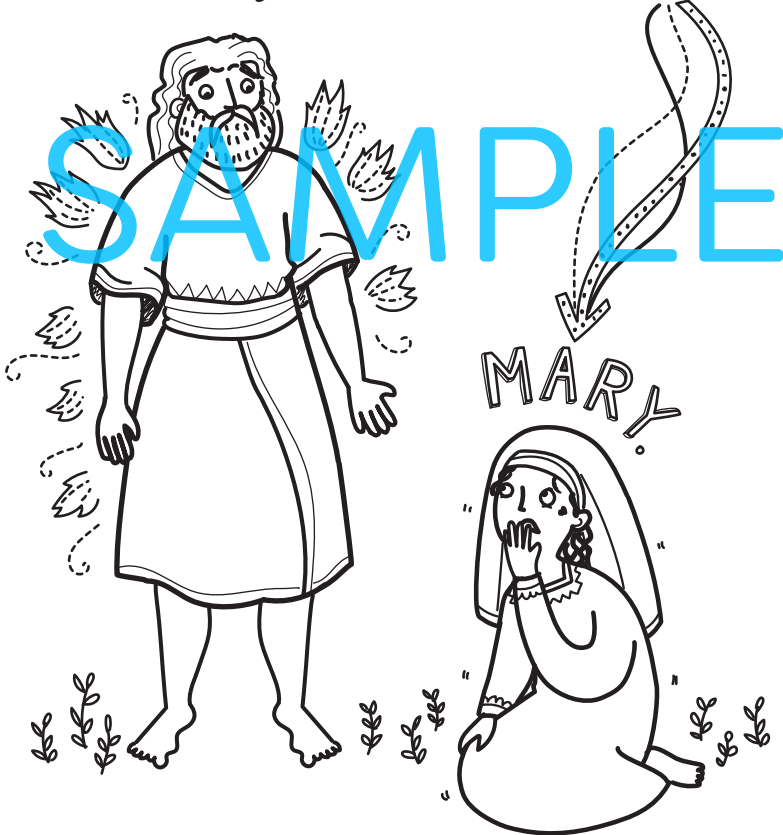




6

months later

the **ANGEL GABRIEL** was out and about again, only this time he was in a **TINY** town called **N**azareth, having a chat with a woman called



He was telling her all sorts of *lovely* things  
(that God had told him to say), so he couldn't understand  
why Mary seemed SO SCARED. I mean, what's

scary about being told that God

♥ really likes you ♥,

that he's with you


and that you're going to have **A BABY** and  
God's going to be the **DAD**... and you have to call him


**JESUS?**

That's not scary at all... if  
you're the angel Gabriel. Gabriel also said, "Oh, by the way,  
your cousin *Elizabeth* is having a **BABY** too."

Mary took a **DEEP BREATH** and calmly said, "OK.

If it's what God wants, then I'LL DO IT." She must've  
been **SUPER** brave.

MARY went to see Elizabeth and she was definitely pregnant, either that or she'd eaten a GIANT FOOTBALL for breakfast. Elizabeth was <sup>mmmmmm</sup> SO EXCITED 

to see Mary that both she and baby John JUMPED <sup>↑</sup> up and down for  JOY, and Mary started to dance and sing:

God is SO GOOD I can hardly believe it  
Why'd he choose me, I'm really not a good fit

But he has  blessed me, because he is epic

And I will praise him, 'cos he's FANTASTIC



He's **SO** good, he's **SO** kind

I can't believe he had me on his mind

He's **SO AWESOME**, he's **SO STRONG**

It's amazing he's <sup>♥ ♥ ♥</sup>loved us all for so long

**SAMPLE**

God is **SO GOOD**, I can hardly believe it,

He has chosen **ME**, so now I'll do my bit

He's my helper, he's my **LORD**

He is **GOD**, he's the Lord of all!

**EVENTUALLY**

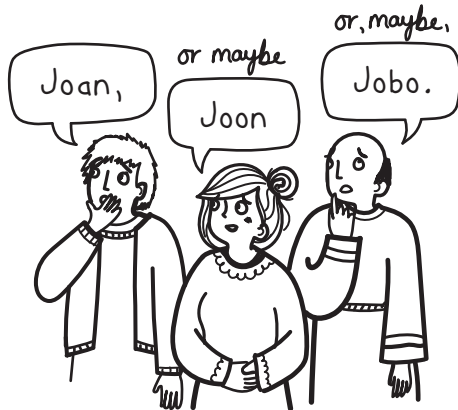
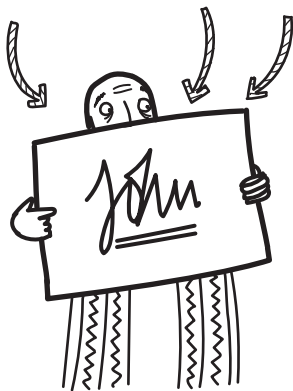
, Elizabeth had her baby and everyone told her she should call him **ZECHARIAH**

after his dad. Elizabeth tried to tell them all she wanted to call him **John**, but they were having **NONE**

OF IT. Zechariah started waving his arms about like **CRAZY** again and everyone stared at him.

**WEIRDO**.

Then he grabbed something to write on and scribbled down something that looked vaguely like



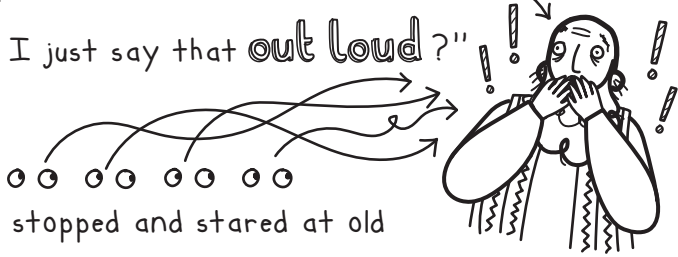
But eventually someone said, "Does that say **John**?"

**PRAISE GOD!** At that moment Zechariah

suddenly blurted out: "John! John! John! His name is

**John!**" then he pulled a rather **ODD** face and said,

"Hey! Did I just say that **out loud?**"



Everyone stopped and stared at old

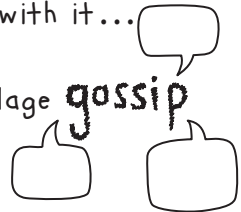
Zechariah. He hadn't said a **SINGLE** word for whole months (not even a **THANK YOU** – how rude!) and then

all of a **SUDDEN** he could speak again. **Super**

**CONFUSING** eh? But the people began to wonder...

There must be something **special** about this John baby, maybe God might've had something to do with it...

**Baby John** became the subject of village **gossip** pretty quickly!



Zechariah was SO **EXCITED** at being able to talk again,

that words just wouldn't *stop*  
*coming out*  
*of his mouth.*

He was *happy*, *sorry*, **EXCITED**, **exhausted**  
and **AMAZED** all at once.

# SAMPLE

God has done it *again!*  
He's really *saving* us all

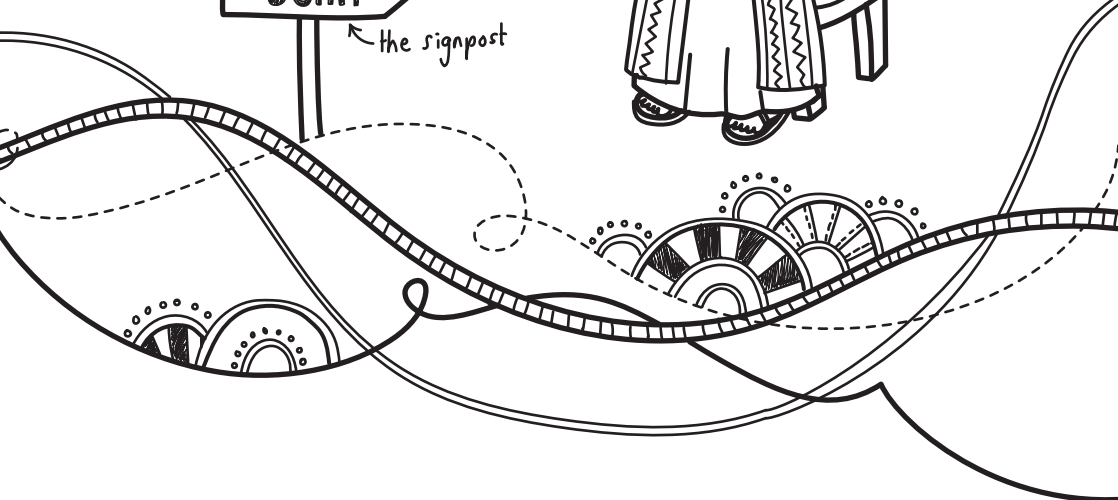
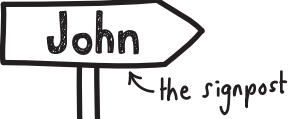
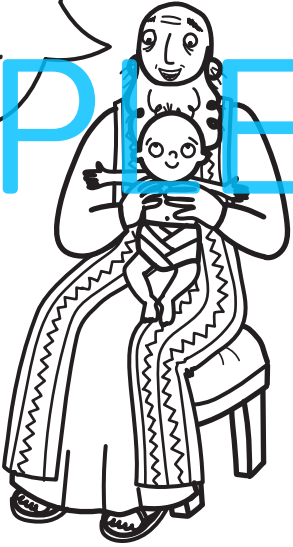
Just like he said he would  
He **NEVER** breaks a promise.  
He's **RESCUING** us,  
He's **FORGIVING** us,  
He's **LOVING** us,  
He's **AMAZING!**

"And John," (Zechariah **"BOUNCED"** him on his  
knee as he said this),

you're going to be the start  
of it ALL! You're going to tell  
people what's coming, you're  
going to be like a *signpost*.

SAMPLE


(Very **INSPIRATIONAL**  
comment from a father there.)





As John grew up, he was still a **HOT TOPIC**

in the local **gossip** charts, especially when he decided

to go off and live in the desert, wear **CAMEL** hair 

and eat only **HONEY** and  **insects**. Tasty. How was he

supposed to be a **signpost** in the desert? No one

ever even went there!

# SAMPLE