

December 7

Character: Elizabeth (Song)

Setting: Our story ended yesterday with the birth of Elizabeth's son, John, whom we now refer to as John the Baptist. After a lifetime of being barren, Elizabeth was finally able to conceive a son. She was incredibly grateful for the favor the Lord showed her by allowing her womb to be open for the birth of this special child. She was also fully aware that this child would be God's child. And the plans God had for him would likely be very hard for her, as his mother. Still, she willingly surrendered her child's life to God's plans and purposes. Her little baby wasn't the Messiah, but he was born for the sole purpose to prepare the world for Jesus. This song tells a story about a woman grateful for the blessing of motherhood but also fully recognizing the pain that can sometimes come when we surrender the plans we have for the children we dream of, to the plans of an almighty God.

Song: Sleep Well

Application: Elizabeth's journey couldn't have come without questions. She longed for a baby all of her life. When God finally answered her prayers for a child, He also revealed to her the very purpose for which he was created. This purpose included a life of seclusion and danger. But also a life full of great meaning and influence. This child would become the prophet declared in ages past that would lead the people to the very source of their salvation, Jesus Christ. Spend some time with your family today discussing how you believe Elizabeth must have felt knowing that God had chosen her to birth a child the prophets foretold hundreds of years ago. Look up the verses in the Bible to prophesize about John the Baptist and record them in your advent journal.

Prayer: Praise God for giving us the grace and the courage to accept His plans for our lives and the lives of those we love, including our children. Thank Him for the many plans and purposes he has for our lives. Ask Him to equip us as He calls us, and to give us grateful hearts for the plans He has for our lives.

