



Sunday, December 5, 2021  
God Fulfills Promises \* Baruch 5:1-9

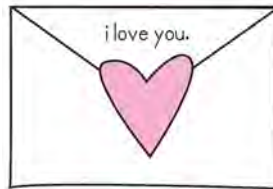


## What's the Big Idea?

### Watch for a leader bringing joy and hope

Last week, we heard about the prophet, Jeremiah, who delivered messages of hope from God to the Israelites during a time when their community was experiencing incredible hardship. This week's story comes from the Old Testament book of Baruch. Baruch was Jeremiah's scribe, someone who had a lot of education, knew the Scriptures well, and served Jeremiah by writing down things he said.

Baruch's words are like God's love letter to the Israelites, filled with hope, joy, and promise that something amazing is coming.



### Read It

This week's story is not in our Spark Story Bible, but you can still find it in a NRSV Bible. Look up Baruch 5:1-9 in the Old Testament.



### Try It

Jesus brings joy, which is special news too good not to share. With your family or a group of friends, play a game of Telephone, but only pass around messages that are filled with good news. For example, you could share a message like, "God loves you so much and I think you're wonderful, too!"

Does the message you send out come back the same or does it get garbled along the way?



### Talk About It

- 1) Have you ever had special news to share? What was it?
- 2) How does your family find joy?
- 3) What are some ways you can remind each other to be hopeful?
- 4) Make a list as long as you can of ways your family works to bring joy to one another and your community in your daily lives. Post your list somewhere in your home so you can remember all the different ways to experience joy.

**Pray:** God of abundant joy, we pray for your joy to fill our hearts, our home, our community, and our world. Help us to share our joy with ease and excitement. Amen.

### Memorize It

*Challenge yourself to memorize the following verse of the week.*

**For God will lead Israel with joy,  
in the light of his glory,  
with the mercy and righteousness that come from God.**

Baruch 5:9

# God Keeps Promises

**Wonderful News** Circle every letter that isn't an X or a Z to discover God's promise. When you have circled the whole message, write it on the lines below.

XZFZZOZXRXGXZOZZDZXWXZIXXLZXLZZLXZEZXAXXDZZIZXSXZRXX-  
AZZEZXLZXWXXIXZTZZHZXJZXOXZYXZIXZNZZTXZHXXEZXLXZIXZGXXHX  
ZTZXOZZFZXHXZIXXSZXGXXLXZOZXRZZYZZXWXZIXXTZZHZZTXZHZXEXZM  
XXEZXRXZCXZYZXAZZNXZDXZRZXIXZGZXHZXTZZEXZOXZUZXSXZNXXEZX  
SZZSXZTZHXZAZZTXZZXCXXOZMXZEZZFZXRXZOZMXZGZXOXXDZX

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Answer: See this week's memory verse!



“Watch for a leader  
who will bring joy  
and hope!”