

UNIT 1
SESSION 3
Bonus Teaching
Hour for
3s-Pre-K

MARY AND ELIZABETH



TRANSITION/GROUP TIME

SNACK

Include the children in the distribution of the snack. Ask for one or more volunteers to pray. Lead the boys and girls to clean up after the snack.

MOVE TO GROUP TIME

Encourage the boys and girls to hold hands with a friend and walk to group time. Say that today we will learn how Mary went to visit one of her relatives.

INTRODUCE THE BIBLE STORY

MARY AND ELIZABETH—BASED ON LUKE 1:39-56

- » Ask the preschoolers to mention the names of some of their family members. Challenge the boys and girls to listen to hear who the relative was that Mary visited. Open the Bible to Luke 1. Keep the Bible open as you summarize the Bible story.

SUMMARIZE THE BIBLE STORY

- » After the angel told Mary she would be the mother of God's Son, she went to visit an older relative named Elizabeth.
- » Elizabeth was waiting for her baby to be born. When Mary spoke to Elizabeth, Elizabeth knew something special had happened to Mary. Elizabeth praised God.
- » Mary praised God as she said, "You do great things. You are kind to all people. You keep your promises."
- » Mary thanked God for the promises He had given. Mary knew God would keep the promises He told her.
- » Mary stayed with Elizabeth for about three months, and then she returned to her home in the town of Nazareth.

REVIEW THE BIBLE STORY

- » Whom did Mary visit?
- » What was Elizabeth waiting for?
- » Why did Mary praise God?

EMPHASIZE THE LIFE POINT

- » Remark that people were happy that Jesus would be born.

ROOM

YOUR TEACHING PARTNER(S)

DATE OF USE

LEVEL OF BIBLICAL LEARNING

God sent Jesus to earth.

LIFE POINT

People were happy that Jesus would be born.

UNIT VERSE

God will send a child to be born. *Isaiah 7:14*

WEEKLY VERSE

Mary praised and thanked God. *Luke 1:46*

SING TOGETHER

Sing to the tune of "Happy Birthday":

Mary praised and thanked God.

Mary praised and thanked God.

Mary did what God asked her.

Mary praised and thanked God.

SAY THE BIBLE VERSE

Guide the boys and girls to say: "Mary praised and thanked God. Luke 1:46." Lead them to clap their hands each time they say a word of the verse. Repeat the verse several times. Remark that people were happy that Jesus would be born.

PRAY

Mention that we can thank God for sending Jesus to earth. Lead the preschoolers in prayer. Thank God for Jesus.

BIBLE-LEARNING ACTIVITIES

Emphasize: People were happy that Jesus would be born.

- 1. Play instruments.** Invite the preschoolers to choose an instrument. Play or sing a Christmas song about Jesus. Lead the boys and girls to play the instruments while they sing along with the song. Stop the music at various intervals. Instruct the children to exchange instruments each time the music stops. Suggest they play the instruments loudly or softly. Mention that people were happy that Jesus would be born. Mary went to visit her relative Elizabeth. Mary praised God. She thanked Him for always keeping His promises.
- 2. Build a house.** Guide the preschoolers to use the foam blocks to build houses. Suggest the children use the interlocking bricks to build roads going from house to house. Lead the boys and girls to use the people figures to play in the houses. Remind them that Mary went to visit her relative Elizabeth. She stayed with her for three months. They were happy that Jesus would be born.
- 3. Count to three.** Place pom-poms in a bowl. Instruct the children to use the tongs or clothespins to pick up the pom-poms. Lead the preschoolers to place three pom-poms in each cup of the muffin tin. Guide them to count each

pom-pom aloud as they place the pom-pom in the muffin tin. Mention that Mary went to visit her relative Elizabeth. Elizabeth was happy that Mary was going to have a baby. Mary stayed with her for three months. Mary praised God for sending Jesus.

- 4. Write a letter.** Post the Allergy Alert. Assist each child to put on a painting smock. Give each child a piece of wax paper. Place a quarter-size amount of shaving cream on the paper. Lead the children to use their hands to spread the shaving cream out on their papers. Instruct the boys and girls to use their fingers to write the letter *J* in the shaving cream. Suggest they write other letters in the shaving cream. Encourage the children to spread the shaving cream on the paper until it disappears. Comment that people were happy that Jesus would be born. The name Jesus starts with the letter *J*. Mary did what God wanted her to do. She praised God for sending Jesus.

CLEAN UP

Call out a color. Encourage the children to put away everything in the room that is that color. Continue calling out colors until everything is cleaned up. Praise the children for being good listeners.

VISIT A FRIEND

Place hula hoops on the ground around the room. (Use tape to outline large circles on the floor if needed.) Instruct the preschoolers to hop to a hula hoop or circle whenever you say: "Visit a friend." Guide the children to stand in the hula hoops or circles with their friends. Lead the children to hop to a different hoop each time you say: "Visit a friend." Remind the boys and girls that Mary went to visit Elizabeth. Elizabeth and Mary were going to have babies. They were happy that Jesus would be born.

DISMISS

Help children gather their papers and belongings. Thank them for coming. Remind parents to review the Bible story on the Kids Activity Page.

