

ANGELS SPOKE TO MARY AND JOSEPH



TRANSITION/GROUP TIME

SNACK

Include the kids in the distribution of the snack. Ask for volunteers to pray. Lead the kids to clean up after the snack. Thank them for their help.

MOVE TO GROUP TIME

Write *JESUS* on a dry erase board. Invite several kids to take a turn writing *JESUS* on the board next to the word you wrote.

INTRODUCE THE BIBLE STORY

**ANGELS SPOKE TO MARY AND JOSEPH—BASED ON
MATTHEW 1:18-24; LUKE 1:26-38**

- Say: “Today we will hear part of the Christmas story, and it is going to begin with a very unusual birth announcement.”

SUMMARIZE THE BIBLE STORY

(In advance, read the story from the Bible and the Kids Activity Page. During the session, open the Bible and tell or summarize the Bible story.)

- An angel named Gabriel appeared to a woman named Mary.
- The angel told Mary, “Do not be afraid. You are going to give birth to a son, and you are to name Him Jesus. This baby is God’s Son.”
- Mary obeyed God. She said to the angel, “Let it be as you say.”
- An angel also appeared in a dream to Joseph. The angel told Joseph to not be afraid to take Mary as his wife. Mary would give birth to a son. They were to name Him Jesus. He would save His people from their sins.
- Joseph obeyed God and Mary became his wife.

REVIEW THE BIBLE STORY

- How did Mary and Joseph learn that Mary would give birth to a son?
- What name did the angel tell Mary and Joseph to name the special baby?
- Did Mary and Joseph obey God?
- Think: How do you think Mary and Joseph felt as they obeyed God?

EMPHASIZE THE LIFE POINT

- Tell the kids that God planned for Jesus to be born.

ROOM
YOUR TEACHING PARTNERS
DATE OF USE

LEVEL OF BIBLICAL LEARNING

God sent Jesus to earth as a real person.

LIFE POINT

God planned for Jesus to be born.

UNIT VERSE

Jesus was born in Bethlehem. Matthew 2:1

WEEKLY VERSE

Mary will have a son, and you will name Him Jesus. Matthew 1:21

SING TOGETHER

Sing to the tune of “Here We Go Round the Mulberry Bush”:

*Angels spoke to Mary and Joseph,
Mary and Joseph, Mary and Joseph.
Angels spoke to Mary and Joseph,
And said, “Name the baby, Jesus.”*

*Jesus was born in Bethlehem,
In Bethlehem, in Bethlehem.
Jesus was born in Bethlehem,
As God planned for Jesus.*

SAY THE BIBLE VERSE

Write Matthew 1:21 on a dry erase board while saying the verse aloud. Invite kids to say the verse with you as you point to each word. Erase one word of the verse and guide kindergartners to say the verse again with you. Erase another word and say the verse again. Continue erasing words and saying the verse until all words have been erased.

PRAY

Thank God for Mary and Joseph. Thank God for choosing these two people to help fulfill His plan to send Jesus.

BIBLE-LEARNING ACTIVITIES

Emphasize: God planned for Jesus to be born.

1. Whisper messages through swim foam noodle.

Show kids how to speak through a foam noodle. Invite one child to hold a foam noodle up to his ear. Stretch the noodle straight and encourage a second child to whisper messages through the noodle for the other child to hear. Prompt the kids to whisper messages such as: the Unit Verse, the Weekly Verse, and the Life Point. Also encourage kids to whisper simple statements about the Bible story.

2. Look at Christmas Bible storybooks.

Place a Bible and several Christmas Bible storybooks in a small plastic bin. Spread out a blanket and place the bin of books next to the blanket. Invite kids to sit on the blanket with you. Encourage a child to select a book from the bin. Either read the Bible or a book to the kids or

help them to read the book to you. Remind kids that God planned for Jesus to be born.

3. Create a paper bag puppet.

Distribute paper lunch sacks, markers, yarn, wiggle eyes, child-size safety scissors, glue, and construction paper. Guide the kids to use the bags to make puppets of any of the people from the Bible story. Show the kids how to lay their paper sacks with the bottom flap facing up. Lead them to draw a face and to glue eyes on the bottom flap. Then, encourage kids to use yarn and construction paper for hair and clothing for their puppets. When the kindergartners have finished creating their puppets, show them how to place a hand in the bottom of the sack to make the puppet talk.

4. Dress up like Bible story people.

Distribute child-sized Bible times clothing, or strips of cloth and large T-shirts. Invite the kids to dress like people in the Bible story. Help kids put on the clothing, and to loosely tie the strips of cloth around their waists as belts, or around their heads as head coverings. As boys and girls dress up, ask them to tell about and play out the different people in the Bible story.

CLEAN UP

Remind kids that both Mary and Joseph obeyed God when they agreed to be the parents of Jesus. Give each child a simple task to do, such as putting away supplies, pushing in chairs, or stacking books. Thank the kids for doing what you asked.

PLAY “WHERE IS THE ANGEL?”

Direct kids to sit on the floor in a circle. Ask them to close their eyes and to bow their heads. Hide a small angel figure somewhere in the room. Ask the kids to open their eyes and to lift their heads. Lead kids to search the room with their eyes until they find the “angel.” When a child spots the angel, encourage him to remain seated and point to it. Retrieve the figure. Play again as time allows.

DISMISS

As each child picks up his belongings and gets ready to leave, invite him to say the Life Point with you: “God planned for Jesus to be born.”