



# A LESSON AT ADVENT: AN ANGEL VISITS MARY

## BEFORE YOU READ:

- The Bible tells us all about God sending the world a special gift. That gift was Jesus!
- Before Jesus was born, special messengers of God, called prophets, told the people that Jesus was coming. Jesus was coming to save the world because it was broken due to sin.
- When our Bible Story begins, it had been hundreds of years since the prophets told about Jesus.
- God chose earthly parents for Jesus. Their names were Mary and Joseph.

Read the following Bible Story to learn more about Mary!

## READ: BIBLE STORY-LUKE 1

God sent the angel **Gabriel** to Nazareth, to a **young** woman named **Mary**. She was engaged to marry a man named Joseph, a descendant of King David.

Gabriel said to Mary, "Greetings, you are favored by the Lord, and He is with you!" **Mary was confused and afraid and wondered what the angel could mean.**

"Don't be afraid, Mary!" the angel said. **"You will become pregnant and give birth to a son, and you are to name Him Jesus. He will be very great and will be called the Son of the Most High."** "How can this happen?" Mary asked. "I am not married yet." The angel replied, **"The Holy Spirit will come upon you. The baby will be God's Son. God can do anything!"**

The angel told Mary that one of her family members, **Elizabeth**, was pregnant, even though she was old and did not have children of her own. **Mary said, "May everything happen just as you said." The angel left.**

Afterwards, Mary hurried to the town where Elizabeth lived. When she went inside and greeted her, the Baby inside Elizabeth leaped for joy! Then the Holy Spirit filled Elizabeth and she told Mary that she and her baby would be blessed. **Mary was full of joy, and she praised God with a song about how Great God is!**

(Adapted from "The Bible Made Easy")

## REVIEW/DISCUSS:

- What was the name of the Angel God sent to Mary? (Gabriel)
- What was the name of the town the angel went to? (Nazareth)
- How did Mary respond to the angel's message?
- How might you have felt if an angel appeared to you?
- If God doesn't do something, does that mean God can't? Is anything impossible for God?
- In choosing earthly parents for Jesus, God chose ordinary people. Mary was young and poor. How does it make you feel to know that God uses regular people to do AMAZING things?
- God gave Mary a special task, and she agreed to do it! Can you name one task you think God could give you to do?
- Mary obeyed God, which means she trusted God. How can you trust God?



## ACTIVITY: "CRAFTING ANGELS"

**Supplies needed:** Paper plate, Scissors, glitter, markers, paper, a gold pipe cleaner (optional), tape/glue, other decorating tools (as desired)

- Step 1:** Adults should cut a deep triangle out of a white paper plate.
- Step 2:** Put lines of glue all around the plate and shake gold glitter on it.
- Step 3:** Using the paper, cut a circle for the angel's face and decorate to add facial features, hair, and hands. Add them to the triangle you cut out of the plate (the head should tape to the tip of the triangle. It becomes the angel's body)
- Step 4:** Bend the pipe cleaner to look like a halo (or create one with paper). Tape it to the back of the head. Tape the angel to the bottom part of the plate (the head should fit in the center of the plate), so that you can see angel wings take shape.
- Step 5:** Decorate your angel as you desire!



## PRAYER:

Dear God,

Thank you for sending the angel Gabriel to tell Mary about the baby she would have. Thank you for having a plan to save the world through Jesus. Just like Mary did, help me joyfully obey all you ask me to do. In Jesus' name, Amen!