

November Weeks 1 and 2



November 7th/8th

November 14th/15th

OVERVIEW CARD

THE ANGEL AND MARY

Theme:

Story Sparklers

Key Question:

Why is Jesus special?

Bottom Line:

Jesus is God's Son.

Memory Verse:

"God loved the world so much that
He gave His only Son."

John 3:16, GNT

Bible Story Focus:

The angel told Mary she would have a special baby.

The Angel and Mary

Luke 1:26-33, 38, 46

Coloring Page:

An angel visits Mary.

Music:

I Like To

It's Christmastime

Best Present Ever

Nobody Loves Me Like You

Bible Lesson:

The Beginner's Bible

An Angel Visits Mary

Pages 266 to 270

Story:

Christmas Angels

by Crystal Bowman

Service Time:

63 minutes (week 1)

67 minutes (week 2)

Memory Verse –

**"God loved the world so much that
He gave His only Son."**

John 3:16, GNT

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ACTIVITY 1

THE ANGEL AND MARY

Snow Angels

Big Idea:

“Snow Angels” is an activity that uses large motor movement and imaginary play to introduce the angel from the Bible lesson.

What You Need: Fun preschool Christmas music

(Optional: Bubbles)

What You Do:

During the Activity: Introduce the idea of making snow angels. Ask the children to lie on their backs and pretend to make snow angels on the floor while you play Christmas music.

Optional: While the children pretend to make snow angels, blow bubbles in the air so they will fall on the children. Tell the children to pretend the bubbles are snowflakes falling on them.

What You Say:

During the Activity: “Raise your hand if you have ever made a snow angel. What was it like? (Allow the children to share if they have made snow angels.) I can remember making them as a kid. It was super fun and super COLD! We would lie on our backs in the snow like this and move our arms and legs like this. (Demonstrate.) Hey! Let’s pretend it’s snowing and we’re making snow angels! (Play Christmas music.) Everyone lie down like this. Pretend there’s lots of white, fluffy snow on the ground. Now move your arms and legs like this in the snow. We’re making snow angels!” (Continue doing this as long as the children are having fun.)

After the Activity: “Whew! That was fun! Now, who wants to hear a story about a REAL angel? Me too! Our Bible lesson today is about a real angel who had a special message from God for a girl named Mary. Read the children’s story Christmas Angels by Crystal Bowman.

Memory Verse –

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John 3:16, GNT

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ACTIVITY 2

THE ANGEL AND MARY

Find the Angels

Bottom Line:

"Find the Angels" is an activity that introduces this week's Bible lesson while encouraging kids to find the hiding angels.

What You Need: Angel from a nativity set (2) (and all other Nativity characters for after the activity)

What You Do:

Before the Activity: Hide the angels somewhere in the room but in children's view.

During the Activity: Encourage kids to look around to find the angels. Hide and find as many times as desired. *Once the children are done playing 'Find the Angels' pull out ALL of the Nativity characters and allow the children to free play with them. Introduce all of the characters to the children.*

Older Children Option: Invite the children to sit in a circle with you. Tell everyone to close their eyes. Give the angel to one child and then tell everyone to open their eyes. Pick one child and give him three chances to guess who has the angel.

After the Activity: Introduce the Bible lesson.

What You Say:

Before the Activity: "Hey, friends! There are two angels hiding in the room. Let's go look for them."

During the Activity: "Look high and low. Do you see the little angels? (Pause.) Good job finding the angels. Let's hide them and find them again. Close your eyes like this. (Demonstrate covering eyes with both hands and putting your head down.) I'll tell you when you can start looking again. (Pause.) Okay! Let's look and find the angels. (Pause.) Super job! Everyone come sit with me."

After the Activity: "You guys did a terrific job finding the angels! In our Bible lesson today we heard about an angel who came to bring a very special message. Do you remember what that message was?"

Memory Verse –

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ACTIVITY 3

THE ANGEL AND MARY

Colorful Letters

Big Idea:

"Colorful Letters" is an activity that uses large motor movement and color recognition to review the Bottom Line.

What You Need: "Mail" (from the Activity Pages in four different light colors of paper such as blue, yellow, orange, green), tape, and 4 small laundry baskets

What You Do:

During the Activity: Take one full sheet of each color of paper. Tape one of the sheets to the front of each of your four baskets. Place the baskets in four different areas of your room. Give each child a handful of "Mail." Tell them their job is to deliver the mail to the basket with the matching color on the front when you say, "GO." Collect the mail and play again as long as the children are having fun.

Older Children Option: Divide the classroom into 4 teams and assign each team a color of mail. Have a relay race to see which team can deliver all of the mail first.

What You Say:

During the Activity: "Follow me. What color is this paper on this basket? (Point to a basket.) Yes! What about this basket? What color is this paper? (Do this with each basket.) Today we're going to play a game. You get to be a mail carrier and deliver all these letters. All you have to do is match the color of the letter to the color on the basket and drop the letter in the basket. When I say, 'GO,' I want you to deliver your mail as fast as you can. Ready? On your mark! Get set! GO!"

After the Activity: "That was fun! And you did an excellent job delivering those letters. The angel in our lesson today delivered a very, very, VERY special message to Mary. Do you remember what that message was? Yes! He told Mary she was going to have a very special baby named Jesus. **Why is Jesus special?** (Pause.) You got it! **Jesus is God's Son!**"

Memory Verse –

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John 3:16, GNT

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ACTIVITY 4

THE ANGEL AND MARY

Let's Learn It!

Big Idea:

"Let's Learn It!" is an activity that uses large motor movement, listening, and reciting skills to help the children memorize the monthly Bible verse.

What You Need: No supplies needed

What You Do:

During the activity: Lead the children in doing the motions while saying the Memory Verse together several times.

What You Say:

Before the activity: "We have a new Bible verse and it's one of my favorites! I can't wait for you to learn it. It says: 'God loved the world so much that He gave His only Son,' John 3:16.

During the activity: "Now let's try it with the motions. Watch me and try to follow along the best you can. 'God (point up) loved the world (hug yourself) so much (stretch your arms out as far as possible) that He gave (place your hands together with palms up in front of you as if you're offering something) His only Son' (hold your arms as if you're cradling and rocking a baby), John 3:16. (Open your hands like a book.) Great job! Let's say it again!" (Repeat as many times as desired.)

At the end of the activity: "The angel told Mary in our lesson today that God was sending His Son, Jesus, to be our friend forever. That is the bestest news ever! Do you remember why it's the bestest news ever? (Pause.) I mean, **why is Jesus so special?** (Pause.) **Jesus is God's Son!** Yes, He is. Jesus is God's only Son and that makes Him very special."

Memory Verse –

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ACTIVITY 5

THE ANGEL AND MARY

Squishy Angels

Big Idea:

“Squishy Angels” is an activity that reviews this week’s Bible lesson while encouraging kids to use their fine motor skills to make angels from Play-Doh®.

What You Need: Play-Doh®, angel cookie cutters, and wet wipes

What You Do:

Before the Activity: Portion out the Play-Doh® and place the portions around the table along with the angel cookie cutters.

During the Activity: Have kids flatten the Play-Doh® and cut angels out of it.

After the Activity: Review the Bible lesson.

What You Say:

Before the Activity: “Look at these cookie cutters. They are angel cookie cutters! Let’s make some angels out of Play-Doh®.”

During the Activity: “Flatten out your Play-Doh®. (Pause.) Now push down the cookie cutter. (Pause.) Look at that! You made an angel! Let’s make some more! (Pause.) Great job!”

After the Activity: “Today we heard a Bible lesson about an angel that came to deliver a special message! Do you remember what it was? (Pause) You are right, the angel told Mary that God was sending His Son, Jesus, to be our friend forever. That is the bestest news ever! Do you remember why it’s the bestest news ever? (Pause.) I mean, **why is Jesus so special?** (Pause.) **Jesus is God’s Son!** Yes, He is. Jesus is God’s only Son and that makes Him very special.”

Memory Verse –

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ACTIVITY 6 – 4's/5's

THE ANGEL AND MARY

We Are the World

Big Idea:

"We Are the World" is an activity that uses gross motor skills and teamwork to accomplish a task.

What You Need: Inflatable world globe

What You Do:

Before the Activity: Inflate the globe.

During the Activity: Have the children stand in a circle with you. Place the globe on the floor and kick it inside the circle. Have the children kick it to each other and challenge them to keep the globe inside the circle. Repeat as desired.

What You Say:

Before the Activity: (*Hold up the globe.*) "I have a special ball that we are going to play with today. It has lots of colors and shapes on it. This is called a globe. It is a map of our WHOLE world!"

During the Activity: "Everyone stand in a circle. Great job! Now I am going to kick the ball inside our circle. If it comes to you, kick it to someone else. Be careful and do not kick it too hard. Let's see if we can keep it inside our circle the entire time. Are you ready? (*Pause.*) Here we go!" (*Do activity.*)

After the Activity: "Great job! (*Hold up globe.*) This is what our world looks like. God made our world! Today in our Bible lesson we heard about something AMAZING that God did for our world! Do you remember what it was? Yes, God sent His Son, Jesus, to be our friend forever. That is the bestest news ever! Do you remember why it's the bestest news ever? (*Pause.*) I mean, **why is Jesus so special?** (*Pause.*) **Jesus is God's Son!** Yes, He is. Jesus is God's only Son and that makes Him very special."

Memory Verse –

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CRAFT - WK 1

THE ANGEL AND MARY

Christmas Angel

Bottom Line:

"Christmas Angel" is an activity that strengthens fine motor skills as it reinforces today's Bible lesson.

What You Need: "Angel Body" and "Angel and Mary Sticker" from the Activity Pages, Avery® labels #5160, white cardstock, small white coffee filters, spray bottles, glue, markers, and glitter pens

What You Do:

Before the activity: Copy "Angel Body" from the Activity Pages on white cardstock, and cut the angel body out for each child. Make enough copies of "Angel and Mary Sticker" on the labels so that each child can have one sticker.

During the activity: Give each child a coffee filter and allow them to color them with the markers. Encourage them to color the entire filter on one side. When finished, lightly spray the colored filter with the spray bottle so that the colors run and then allow them to dry.

At the end of the activity: While you are waiting for the filters to dry, allow the children to make a face for the angel with markers and decorate their angels with the glitter pens. When they are finished decorating their angel, give them a "Mary and Angel Sticker" to go on the front of it. Once the filter is dry, fold it in half and glue together then assist them in gluing the filter to the back of the angel body to make angel wings.

What You Say:

Before the activity: "God sent an angel to tell Mary the bestest news EVER! What was that news? (Pause.) Yes! Mary was going to have a special baby—Jesus! **Why is Jesus special?** (Pause.) **Jesus is God's Son.**"

During the activity: "We're going to make angels today to remind us of the bestest news ever! First, we need to give our angels some wings. Now our angels need a face. You can use these markers to draw some eyes, a nose, and a mouth. Now who wants to add a little sparkle with the glitter pens?"

At the end of the activity: "Your angels look so beautiful! I have one last thing for you to put on the front of them. It's a sticker that says, 'The Angel and Mary' so you always remember the beginning of the true Christmas story."

Memory Verse –

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John 3:16, GNT

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CRAFT - WK 2

THE ANGEL AND MARY

Story Sparklers

Big Idea:

"Story Sparklers" is an activity that retells the Bible lesson while the children make their story sparkler for today. (Note: This activity will continue throughout the month of December.)

What You Need: "Story Picture 1," "Story Label 1," from the Activity Pages found on the Website, cardstock, Avery® labels #5160, craft sticks, masking tape, glue sticks and permanent marker

What You Do:

Before the Activity: Copy "Story Picture 1" on cardstock and cut out, one per child. Copy "Story Label 1" on Avery® label #5160 or equivalent, one per child

During the Activity: Retell the Bible lesson as children color their angel and glue the cutout to the craft stick. Add the Bible story reference label to the stick and write children's names on the back.

What You Say:

Before the Activity: "We heard a great Bible story today as we start the countdown to Christmas! Christmas is the best time of the year!"

During the Activity: "Our lesson today was about the very best present there ever was! Who loves presents? (Pause.) Me too! I love them a lot! Well, today's present is most definitely a Christmas present AND it's a present from God to YOU! Did you hear that? That's right, this gift is for you (point) and for you and for you and for me too! God wants to show us how much He loves us, so He is giving us a verrry special Christmas present. And the Bible says it all started with a young girl named Mary. Mary loved God and one day God sent an angel to see her. Do you guys know where angels live? Angels live with God. God sometimes uses them to deliver special messages to people. Mary was scared when she saw the angel! She'd never seen an angel before! But the angel said to Mary, 'Do not be afraid, Mary, I have a message for you from God. You are going to have a (excited voice) BABY! God is giving you HIS Son. You will name Him Jesus and He will be a gift for (spread hands over head) everyone!' And Mary said, 'I will do what God wants me to do!' That's amazing! Mary is going to have a baby and that baby is going to be God's Son, Jesus! Friends, take your picture of the angel and glue it to the craft stick like this. (Demonstrate.) Great! Now add the sticker right here on the handle. (Demonstrate.) This tells us where the story we heard today about Mary and the angel can be found in the Bible. (Flip it over and write child's name on the stick.) We are going to make a story sparkler like this one with each new story that will help us tell all the Bible stories."

After the Activity: "Wow! God sure loves us, doesn't He? Yes, God sent His Son, Jesus, to be our friend forever. That is the bestest news ever! Do you remember why it's the bestest news ever? (Pause.) I mean, **why is Jesus so special?** (Pause.) **Jesus is God's Son!** Yes, He is. Jesus is God's only Son and that makes Him very special."

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SMALL GROUP

THE ANGEL AND MARY

Small Group Time

What you Need: Dry erase board and dry erase marker.

SMALL GROUP LEADER (SGL): “Today we heard the first part of the true story of Christmas. Remember how the angel told Mary the bestest news ever? (Pause.) He told her she was going to have a special baby named Jesus. And **why is Jesus special?**”

CHILDREN and SGL: “Jesus is God’s Son.”

SGL: “That’s right! Our new Memory Verse says (*open Bible*), ‘God loved the world so much that He gave His only son,’ John 3:16. God gave us Jesus to be our friend forever because He loves us. Let’s say our verse together with the motions.”

CHILDREN and SGL: “God loved the world so much that He gave His only Son”, John 3:16.”

SGL: “One more time!”

CHILDREN and SGL: “God loved the world so much that He gave His only Son”, John 3:16.”

SGL: “Perfect! Today I want to write all of our names on our dry erase board. Then, when I pray, I want to thank God for giving each of us Jesus to be our friend forever. That really is the bestest news ever!

(Remember to print the children’s names so they can recognize the letters.)

“There! Would anyone like to say your own prayer to God before I pray?”

(Give each child that wants to pray the opportunity to do so and then close with a prayer that includes the list the children made.)

Memory Verse –

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He gave His only Son.”**

John 3:16, GNT