



Gabriel Visits Mary

Luke 1:26-58

God Statement: Jesus is God's Gift

KEY VERSE: "A child will be born to us. A son will be given to us. He will rule over us. And he will be called Wonderful Adviser and Mighty God."
(Isaiah 9:6a, NIRV)

CHECK-IN

Classroom Teacher

(until 15 minutes after the start of each service)

As kids check-in, please have them wash their hands or use hand sanitizer before entering your classroom. Then they can participate in the various activities and games in your classroom. 10 minutes after the start of your service time, ask the kids to clean up their activities and toys so you can begin the Explore Activity at 15 minutes after the start of service.

EXPLORE ACTIVITY

Classroom Teacher

(15 minutes)

The Explore Activity is a chance to get the kids thinking about the upcoming Bible story for the day. Encourage your kids to engage with the activity as they prepare for the lesson.

DISCUSS: Jesus is God's Gift

In today's lesson, we are going to continue learning about how Jesus is God's Gift.

SAY:

Last week, we talked a lot about gifts. Does anyone remember our God Statement? Jesus is God's Gift, that's right! It's Christmas time, and we heard the first part of the Christmas story, about Zechariah and Elizabeth. Who do you think we might learn about this week? Any guesses? *Pause for responses.* We're going to learn about Mary today.

Mary is a very important part of the Christmas story, and Mary had a very special visitor. Let's make a craft that might give us a hint as to who that special visitor was.

MAKE:

To get the kids thinking about the lesson, they can do this activity!

Angel Gabriel Wings Craft

Supplies: scissors, Gabriel angel cardstock page, markers/crayons, glue sticks

Say: *Today we are going to hear a very special story about an angel! His name was Gabriel and he delivered a special message. Let's decorate our pictures and talk about what we see. What message do you think Gabriel is bringing to this person in our picture?*

Directions: Pass out a card stock page of Gabriel and Mary to each child. Have them cut along the dotted line to remove the section with the wings. Help children cut out the wings if needed. Children can cut out the wings and glue them to Gabriel's back. They can then color the surrounding picture. When children move/shake the page, the wings will move.

LARGE GROUP

(25 minutes)

Each week, Large Group will consist of an introduction, worship, the Bible lesson, worship response, and the blessing.

WELCOME & EXPECTATIONS

Host

Depending on your age group, either find a designated space in your classroom or join the other classes for Large Group in the specified location.

As children enter into Large Group time, welcome and greet the children, telling them you're excited to have them joining this evening/morning.

Expectations Slide

Once everyone has found their seat, the host will use the Large Group expectations slide to go over the rules. Encourage various children to take turns reading the rules.

**** After Expectations, transition the power point to the Key Verse slides.****

KEY VERSE

Host

Before you start worship, introduce/review the key Bible verse for the quarter. This is a great

opportunity for you to talk about the importance of God’s Word and encourage the kids to work on memorizing the verse each week.

Use the Key Verse Motions Video on Plex (or sent in weekly email) to learn the motions prior to Large Group.

**“A child will be born to us. A son will be given to us. He will rule over us. And he will be called Wonderful Adviser and Mighty God.”
(Isaiah 9:6a, NIRV)**

****** After the Introduction, transition the power point to the Worship songs and invite the Worship Leader up front to lead the kids in worship. ******

OPENING WORSHIP

Worship Leader

While the video is playing the opening worship songs, encourage the kids to sing and dance along. Don’t forget to set the example by participating alongside them!

Kids may participate in the worship however they feel led. Encourage kids to find a way that helps them worship best but remind them that it’s not time to goof off or talk to friends. If you have someone leading the worship up front, you can even invite a few kids to help.

****** After Worship, transition the power point into the Bible Story video where the kids will hear about the lesson for the day. ******

BIBLE STORY

Lesson Video

Remind the group before starting the video to follow the expectations for Large Group.

THIS WEEK’S LESSON: Gabriel Visits Mary

Encourage kids to listen and engage with the lesson as they watch the teaching video.

******After the video finishes, turn on soft worship music (with or without lyrics) to transition into Worship Response. This should be background music to help set the tone for a quiet reflection time with God.******

WORSHIP RESPONSE

Host

Worship Response is an opportunity for the kids to apply what they just learned and to respond to what God is doing in their life. *Have the kids sit in a place where they can be still and reflect independently.* Then read through the Worship Response prompts below as you lead the kids through the time.

Supplies: none

Prepare ahead: Read through leader instructions

Leader Instructions: Leader, the kids are going to give you phrases about God and you're going to make them into a song or spoken word. Feel free to change it up and repeat. Try to say the phrases in a rhythmic way.

Example:

God is great. (Say fast or slowly.)

He saves us.

God is Promise Keeper.

He is in control.

He loves us.

Ideas: You can have half the room say one line and the other half echo it. You can have the boys say one phrase and the girls say another. Then everybody says the last line together. Make it fun and roll with it. Everybody could clap in a strong rhythm to match the words.

Elizabeth and Mary had lots of good news! And special babies! They were so happy, they burst into song. Mary said or sang a whole song about how great God is.

Let's make our own song praising God.

Who can think of something really great about God?

Let's come up with 4 or 5 things about God that tell us about Him. Maybe a God statement.

Use the kids' words to repeat into a rhythmic saying.

You can sing or say this anytime you want to praise God.

You can make up another song when you want to praise Him.

Sometimes, when things are hard, the best thing we can do is praise God because it helps us remember all the good He has done for us too!

He loves to hear you worship, anytime, anywhere, any way.

Close time in prayer.

*****After Worship Response, transition the power point to the closing Worship videos and invite the Worship Leader to come back up.*****

CLOSING WORSHIP

Worship Leader

Play the closing worship song included in the power point and encourage the kids to sing and praise along.

This closing song is intended to be a transition for the kids to finish processing and reflecting on the lesson before transitioning to the small group time.

****After Worship or Bible Story, transition the power point to the “Compassion International” slide.****

COMPASSION & OFFERING

Host

Before closing large group, take a moment to highlight and discuss each campus' Compassion sponsor child. Explain a little about the Compassion child's life and the impact their offering has for this child (info should be provided on cards in classroom). Then remind kids that if anyone brought offering, now is the time to come forward to donate.

Ask a child to come up and pray for the offering and their Compassion child.

****After Compassion & Offering, transition the power point to the “Announcement” slide. The host will discuss any current announcements.****

ANNOUNCEMENTS & SPECIAL MISSIONS FOCUS

Host

Take this opportunity to cover any announcements and special missions focus for the kids, such as upcoming events or reminders, like bringing food donations for Feeding Families. Use the slides provided in the Power Point to display important announcements.

****After Announcements, transition the power point to the “Blessing” slide. The host will lead the class in receiving the blessing for the day.****

BLESSING

Host

Read the verse and blessing over the kids before closing Large Group. Encourage the kids to stand and open their hands to receive the blessing as a truth that they can take with them this week and hide in their hearts.

Friends, always remember that you can always worship God anytime. He loves to have you worship Him. Just as the Bible says: “Sing to the Lord a new song!”

SMALL GROUP

Classroom Teachers

(10 minutes)

The Small Group discussion is a chance for the kids to discuss what they've just learned and to challenge them to think deeper.

Younger Kids:

This time is optional for younger kids, depending on if you feel like the kids are still listening and participating well.

1. **Briefly retell the Bible story (Luke 1:26-58).**

What big news did the angel share with Mary? (She was going to have a child and name him Jesus).

2. **What did Mary do after hearing the news from Gabriel?** (She sang and praised God).
3. **What was so special about this baby that Mary would have?** (He would be the Son of God, Jesus!)
4. **Mary didn't feel worthy to be given such an important role. Do you know that God loves you right now, just as you are? How does that make you feel?**
5. **Turn to the friend next to you and say, "God loves you just as you are!"**

Close small group in prayer.

Older Kids:

Encourage the kids to utilize their personal Bibles or the classroom Bibles to read the Scripture as a group.

1. **Read Luke 1:27-28.**

What was the first thing the angel said to Mary?

2. **Read Luke 1:29-33.**

What big news did the angel share with Mary? What names did the angel tell Mary her son would be called?

3. **Why do you think God chose Mary to be the mother of Jesus?**

4. Mary didn't feel worthy to be given such an important role. Do you know that God loves you right now, just as you are? How does that make you feel?
5. How can we respond to God's great love for us?

Close small group in prayer.

RESPOND ACTIVITY

Classroom Teacher

(10 minutes)

DISCUSS:

If you have extra time at the end of your lesson and small group time, the kids can participate in this activity.

Gabriel Visits Mary Word Search

Supplies: 1 activity page per child, markers/crayons

Say: *What an incredible story! Mary is going to give birth to the Savior (JESUS!). Let's do this activity to help us remember what we've learned today.*

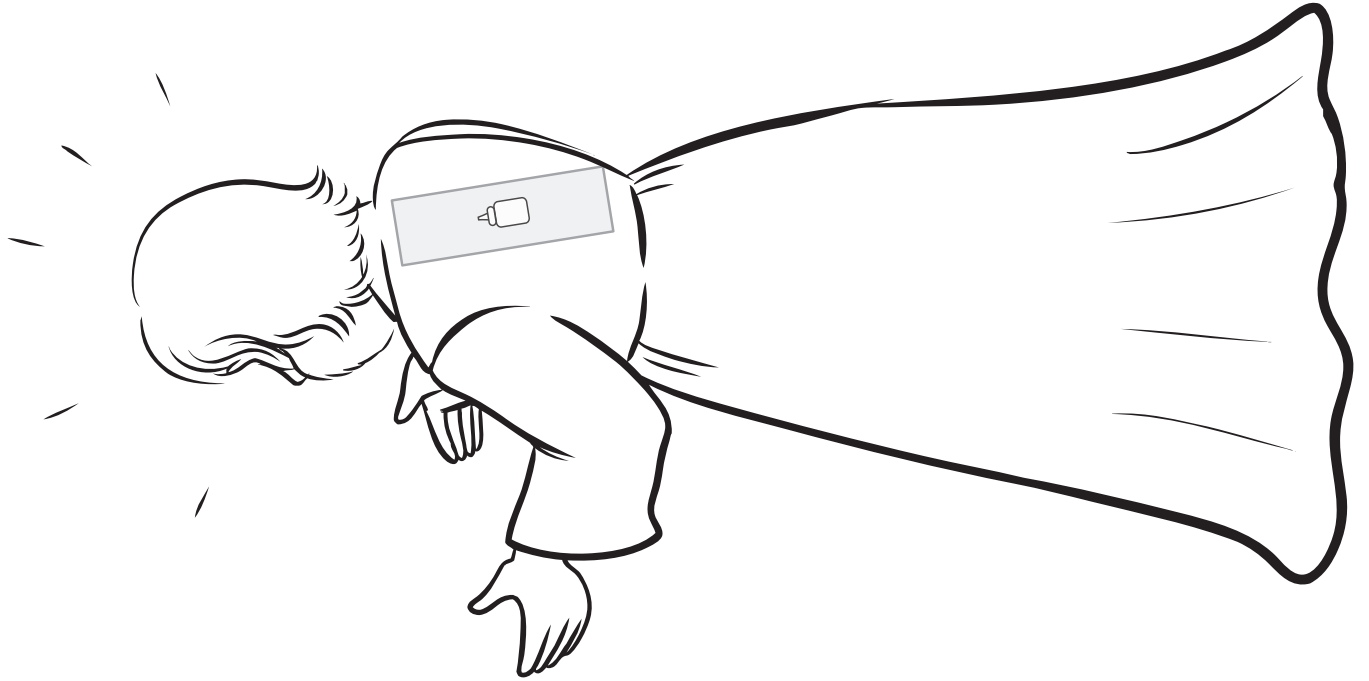
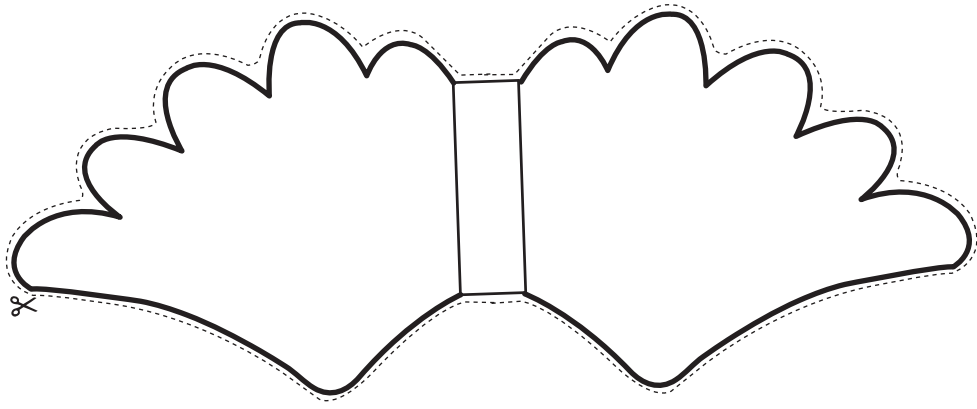
Directions: Pass out word search page and pens/pencils for kids to complete. This can also be sent home if there is not enough time in class to complete it.

CHECK-OUT

Classroom Teacher

(end of service)

As parents arrive for check-out, the kids can continue participating in the Respond Activities or the classroom games and





Bible Pathway Adventures

WORD SEARCH

AN ANGEL VISITS MARY

V S H A L O M Z X N Z N E R S O F I M O
A T G Z T Q R Y E B A B R O W K C S O K
L F H A D M Y X A U D Z A B V V W R Y Q
S O E I B Y Y W H H F S A B E X C A E N
O U U L F R T Q D Y W J K R Y H N E V P
B K Z G O J I A Y G Z E C N E H P L S U
E A O S S H J E O E B E H S X T A I O X
X Y R I L V I G L E S M Y O B B H T N C
L K S P L M B M Q V I H A R H W M E O C
G A L I L E E O S E W O U M M I E Q F F
R G H K V X J X Q C N L W A I J S Z G M
W Z M O Z N I W F O R Y I W H E S U O I
H A Z J Y V K E A D U S H Q L H I N D Z
V Z Y N O M V Q R L C P R H O P A M A K
M J Q Z B S A Q S F I I I O T N H F H R
C X V R W V E R E O I R F Y W Z H T N D
R N K Z W R Z P Y Z M I M G E P Q U T Y
Q J Q I Q H K E H A K T Q Z X L G S J S
M Z A N G E L B E T R O T H E D O R R W
F L W B P R E G N A N T I V I R G I N Q

SON OF GOD
VIRGIN
BETROTHED
HOLY SPIRIT
BABY
GABRIEL

SHALOM
NAZARETH
MESSIAH
ISRAELITE
JOSEPH
YAHWEH

MARY
ELOHIM
PREGNANT
GALILEE
ANGEL
YESHUA