



Gabriel Visits Mary

Isaiah 7:14; Luke 1:26-33

God Statement: Jesus is God's Gift

KEY VERSE:

"A child will be born to us." Isaiah 9:6a, NIRV

CHECK-IN

(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

(10 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 learn about how Jesus is God's Gift.

Say: Raise your hands if you like gifts. When do you get gifts? *Pause for response.* We get gifts on our birthdays, sometimes we get gifts for no reason at all, sometimes we get them on special holidays like Easter or Christmas! Do you know what holiday is coming up soon? Christmas, that's right. Did you know that the greatest gift of all came at Christmas? Who's birthday do we always celebrate at Christmas? Yes! That's right!

Jesus! Jesus is God's greatest gift to each of us. Let's say that together – Jesus is God's Gift!

PLAY: Nativity Scene

To get the kids thinking about the lesson, they will be using the Nativity scene to become familiar with the story of Jesus' birth.

Directions: Let each child hold a piece of the Nativity. Tell the story very briefly and let them bring in their piece and set it up on the table or floor.

Say: *Friends, we're going to look at the story of Christmas, Jesus' birthday. You may each hold a piece of the story while I tell you about it.*

An angel came from heaven to talk to Mary. He told her she was going to have a baby! The baby would be very special. The baby would be JESUS. (Child with angel set it out. Child with Mary set her out.)

Joseph loved her very much and he took good care of her and baby Jesus. (Set out Joseph.)

The angel told the shepherds that baby Jesus was born. (Set out shepherd and bring the angel to talk to him.)

Some wise men from far away saw a star that led them to Baby Jesus and worshipped Him. (Kids set the wisemen near the stable.)

Baby Jesus was a very special baby. All babies are special but Baby Jesus is God's son who came to save us.

CLEAN UP

(5 minutes)

Have the children begin cleaning up as you transition into Large Group time. All the toys should be put away by the end of clean up time.

Try singing: "Clean up, clean up, everybody do your share. Clean up, clean up, everybody everywhere."

LARGE GROUP

(15 minutes)

After clean up, have your class gather around the story time rug/blanket/squares and Hamilton's house for Large Group time. .

WELCOME & PRAYER

Tell the kids you are so excited to have them joining you this morning and give them a brief explanation of Large Group and the expectations of them during this time. After going over the

expectations, pray to open large group time.

WORSHIP (5-7 minutes)

Before starting the lesson, open Large Group time by singing a few familiar songs and using instruments.

Sing the Christmas songs using the videos on Plex in the 2s3s folder.

BIBLE STORY (5-7 minutes)

THIS WEEK'S LESSON: Gabriel Visits Mary

Using the props and Hamilton puppet, tell the story for the day. Make sure to keep it brief and engaging by asking the kids questions throughout and using Hamilton to keep their attention.

Invite Hamilton to come out and see the class.

Say: Hi Hamilton. You look like you have good news! ***Hamilton whispers in your ear.*** Oh my, that's wonderful! Hamilton's aunt had a new baby. Babies are so special! We're going to hear about a new baby today in our story from the Bible.

God sent an angel to give Mary a very special message. The angel said, "Do not be afraid, Mary." An angel would be very big and bright and it would be natural to be a little afraid. The angel also had a surprising message that could make Mary a little afraid. Can you all show me your scared faces? Hamilton, do you have a scared face? ***Hamilton pretends to act scared.*** But the angel said, "Do not be afraid. I am bringing you good news! You're going to have a baby and He will be God's son!! His name will be Jesus."

Say: Wow, that's the most special baby of all. Jesus! Show me your happy and excited faces because of the greatest gift of all, Jesus! ***Hamilton acts happy and excited with the kids.*** Thanks for helping us learn about this very important part of the Christmas story, Hamilton. We can't wait to see you next week to learn more about God's gift to us, Jesus! Bye, Hamilton! ***Hamilton waves goodbye to class.***

SAY IT OUT LOUD! (30 seconds)

This is the opportunity to remind the children of the God Statement for the day. Even if they struggle to pay attention during the lesson, this part is important to do every week.

We are learning that Jesus is King. *Point to the large poster that will be on the wall in your class all quarter: "Jesus is God's Gift!" (Have the kids shout it out together multiple times)*

WORSHIP RESPONSE (2 minutes)

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.

Encourage class to sit quietly.

Say: Jesus came to earth because He loves us. He came to save us from our sins. When we do wrong things, we can tell Him we're sorry and He will forgive us. He loves YOU. Let's tell Jesus that we love Him, too. Ready?

Say: We love you, Jesus!

Pray to close Large Group time out.

BLESSING (1 minute)

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.

Let's remember our verse: "A child will be born to us." Isaiah 9:6a, NIRV. And who's that child? Jesus!

Friends, as you get ready for Christmas, may you remember that Jesus is the best present of all. He came to earth because He loves YOU.

CLOSING ACTIVITIES

(Until parents pickup)

MAKE: Mary Coloring Page

Supplies: Mary Coloring Page- one per child, crayons

Directions: Pass out one coloring page to each child and encourage them to color the page as bright and colorful as they can to remind them of the lesson from today. Make sure each child takes their coloring page home to show their parents what they learned.

CHECK-OUT

(end of service)

As parents arrive for check-out, the kids can continue playing with the classroom games and toys.

Jesus is God's Gift

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Luke 1: 26-33

