

Lesson 49**Advent of the Promised One****Ages 4-5**

Unit 10: The God of Peace

(Preschool-Kindergarten)

God's Promise to Mary**Lesson Aim: To know Jesus is the Son of God.**

PROPHETS AND PROMISES PART 2

THE WORSHIP, THE WORD & THE WAY

THE WORSHIP**Who God is:** The God of Peace**THE WORD****Bible Story:** Luke 1:26-38**What He has done:** God promised Mary that she would give birth to His Son, Jesus.**THE WAY****Whisper Verse:** "Jesus is the Son of God."**Unit 10 Memory Verse:** Psalm 118:1a

"Give thanks to the Lord, for He is good."

TEACHER ENRICHMENT For your own encouragement this week, read Luke 1:46-56.

Teacher Prayer: "Thank you Lord, for including Your servant Mary in fulfilling Your promise of salvation. May we glorify You as Mary did in her willing heart and her courage to believe. Amen."

TEACHER'S PREP

- ☐ Familiarize yourself with Luke 1:26-38.
- ☐ Read Teacher's Guide and At-A-Glance.

TEACHER TIP

Complete THE WORSHIP, THE WORD, THE WAY and Circle of Prayer. If time allows, choose a GOT TIME? activity or create your own activity to illustrate the Bible Story, the Aim or the Bible Memory Verse.

PRESET**THE WELCOME**

- ☐ Treasure Chest: Stamp or sticker of an angel

THE WORSHIP

- ☐ Advent Wreath: Evergreen wreath with four candles on inner rim and one candle in center
- ☐ Bible Memory Verse Song: "Give Thanks To The Lord" and related music
- ☐ Puppet Script or Storybook Lesson 49

THE WORD

- ☐ Teacher's Bible with bookmark at Luke 1:31
- ☐ Watch the Word visual: The Angel Gabriel craft sample from Craft Connection

THE WAY

- ☐ Craft Supplies: Small paper cup, wooden ice cream spoon or popsicle stick, sturdy white and yellow paper, white 4-inch diameter doily, glue or tape, pen or marker, sticker or label
- ☐ Game Supplies: Picture of Mary, sturdy paper, scissors, paper, crayons
- ☐ Snack: Angel food cake (or similar white fluffy snack) and drink
- ☐ Ponder, Pray & Play: Unit 10, Lesson 49

GOT TIME?

- ☐ Game Supplies: Gift box, Baby Jesus figure, Unit 10 Bible Memory Verse Song
- ☐ Color This Story: "The Angel Tells Mary About God's Promise"
- ☐ Story Time: Any story about preparing for Christmas and Christ's birth



1. THE WELCOME

(Pre-service until class begins)

"Jesus is the Son of God."

SAY> (As each child enters classroom) **Hello _____. I'm glad you are here! Come open the Treasure Chest to find today's treasure.** (Child unlocks Treasure Chest to receive a stamp or sticker of an angel.) **Let this sticker of an angel help you remember the angel promised Mary that she would have baby Jesus. Today's Whisper Verse is "Jesus is the Son of God."** (Teach Whisper Verse in spoken language and in sign language below.) **We call it the Whisper Verse so you can whisper it to others.***

SIGN LANGUAGE: "Jesus is the Son of God."

(For visual demonstrations, see commtechlab.msu.edu/Sites/aslweb/browser.htm)

Each time we say today's Whisper Verse, let's say it with three hand motions:

"Jesus (is)" The middle finger of one hand touches the middle of the palm of the other hand, then the same is repeated using the middle finger of the other hand. This action indicates the wounds in Jesus' hands after He was nailed to the cross.

"(the) Son" Begin with the right hand on the forehead as if making a military-style salute. Move the right arm to rest the hand in the crook of the left elbow as if cradling a baby with both arms. (This is the combination of the signs for "boy" and "baby.")

"(of) God." The right hand begins in front of the face, then is lowered and slightly raised in front of the face with palm facing left and all five fingers together.

SAY> (After all have arrived) **Let's sing the "Clean Up Song" as we put toys away before Praise Time.** (Praise any child who helps. Allow several minutes for clean up.)

**"Clean Up Song": Clean up! Clean up! Everybody, everywhere!
Clean up! Clean up! Everybody do your share!**

(Gather and seat children in Praise Time area.)

***Today's Whisper Verse:** "Jesus is the Son of God" from Acts 9:20. The Whisper Verse is a tool to help the children learn a major point in the lesson. It is coupled with sign language or hand motions as a memory aid. The verse is not necessarily chosen from today's Bible story.



2. THE WORSHIP: Praise Time!

(15 minutes)

Worship The God of Peace

***Teacher Tip:** Play "It's Praise Time!" as children move to the place for praise songs, offering and puppet sketch. These activities help children identify time set aside for worship. Below are song suggestions to direct focus during Praise Time.

SAY> It's Praise Time—our time to sing praise to the God of Peace. God brings peace and calmness to our hearts because we know He loves us. He loves us so much He gave His only Son for us. Who knows the name of God's Son? (Jesus.) Our Whisper Verse gives us the answer. Let's say it together now. (Review Whisper Verse together: "Jesus is the Son of God." Include sign language.)

SAY> Let's thank God for giving us His Son, Jesus as we give our offerings. (Sing "Give Thanks To The Lord" while collecting the offering.)

(Advent Wreath) **THE LIGHTING OF THE CHRISTMAS CANDLES: The Angel Candle**

SAY> We light the Christmas candles to get our hearts ready to celebrate Christmas. Today we light the Angel Candle to remember that God sent the angel Gabriel with His promise for Mary. (Choose a child to assist in lighting two of the four purple candles on the Advent Wreath.)

SAY> Mary was afraid when the angel Gabriel appeared. But Gabriel said, "Do not be afraid, Mary. The Lord is with you." God promised to be with Mary and He has promised to be with you, too. (Sing: "I Am With You.")

SAY> Let's see if our friends Delbert and Lello know about the day the angel Gabriel visited Mary. (Read Chapter 49, Volume 10 from The Adventures of Delbert and Lello or interact with puppets according to Lesson 49, Unit 10 Delbert & Lello puppet script.)

ASK> God promised that Mary would have God's Son, Jesus. Do you know if God kept that promise? (Yes, He did.) Let's sing about the day that Jesus was born; when God's promise to Mary came true! (Sing: "I Bring You Good News" and "Away In A Manger" or a favorite traditional Christmas hymn.)

Unit 10 Praise Time song suggestions

Sheet music and recordings available at www.childrensministrywarehouse.net

"Give Thanks To The Lord"

"It's Praise Time!"

"I Bring You Good News"

"His One And Only Son"

"Let Everything That Has Breath"

"The Lord Is Faithful"

"I Am With You"

Traditional Hymn

"Away In A Manger"



3. THE WORD

(10 minutes)

God sent Gabriel with a promise for Mary.

SAY> Before we begin our Bible Time, let's say our **CLASSROOM PROMISE**.

CLASSROOM PROMISE

SAY TOGETHER> **With my eyes on my teacher;** (Point to eyes.)
My mouth quiet as can be, (Place index finger over mouth as quiet sign.)
I will listen to hear, (Cup hand around ear.)
How God loves you and me. (Hug self, point to others and then self.)

SAY> Last time we learned God told Isaiah that He promised to send a special baby. Today we'll hear how God promised Mary she would be the special baby's mother. (Handle Bible as a special treasure, leaving it open to Luke 1:31.)



WATCH THE WORD: LUKE 1:26-38

Read poem below or retell passage in your own words using points of poem as a general guide. To illustrate the story, display the Angel Gabriel craft sample from Craft Connection. Other visual options include Color This Story, picture or story cards.

- **The angel Gabriel came to Mary,**
- **And said, "Do not be afraid,**
- **For the Lord is pleased with you!**
- **Here's the promises He made:**
- **You will have a baby boy.**
- **Name Him Jesus when He is born.**
- **Jesus is the Son of God;**
- **He'll be King forevermore!"**

ASK> What did the angel tell Mary to name the baby? (Jesus.) **Let's find our answer in the Bible.** (Read Luke 1:31 from teacher's Bible.)

ASK> Who is God's Son? (Jesus.) **Our Whisper Verse tells us the answer. Let's say it together: "Jesus is the Son of God."** (Include sign language or hand motions.)



4. THE WAY

(20 minutes)

Jesus is the Son of God.

Invite the children to circle area or centers for THE WAY: Bible Story application. Craft and games can be presented at the same time in centers, or one at a time depending on class size and teaching style.



CRAFT: THE ANGEL GABRIEL

God's Promise to Mary. Luke 1:26-38

Purpose: To create the second figure in a five-week series of Nativity set characters to remind the children of God's promise to Mary that she would give birth to His Son, Jesus.

☑ Supplies needed per child:

- ☐ Small paper cup (uncoated)
- ☐ Wooden ice cream spoon or popsicle stick
- ☐ Sturdy paper: white and yellow
- ☐ White 4-inch diameter doily
- ☐ Glue or tape
- ☐ Pen or marker
- ☐ Sticker or label

☑ Prep Steps: (Prepared before class)

- ☐ Cut a 2-inch diameter circle from white paper
- ☐ Cut a 4-inch x 4-inch x 4-inch triangle from yellow paper
- ☐ Glue the white circle (as the angel's head) to the top of the yellow triangle (the angel's body).
- ☐ Turn the cup upside down. Cut a slit in the bottom of the cup large enough for the wood spoon or popsicle stick to fit through it.
- ☐ On the sticker, pre-print or write:

**God's Promise to Mary
Luke 1:26-38**

- ☐ Place the sticker onto the upside down cup.

Directions for children:

1. Draw the angel's face on the white circle.
2. Glue the angel's back to the center of the doily as halo of light or wings.
3. Glue angel figure to top half of the wood stick.
4. Put the bottom of the stick through the hole in the cup so the angel can stand up.

Optional: Decorate angel with silver, gold or white glitter.

Craft Discussion:

- **What was the angel's name?** (Gabriel.)
- **Who sent the angel Gabriel?** (God)
- **Who did the angel visit?** (Mary.)
- **The angel promised Mary would have a special baby. What was the baby's name?** (Jesus.) **What is God's Son's name?** (Jesus.)
- **That's like our Whisper Verse! Let's say it with our motions right now!** (Say Whisper Verse together with hand motions.)
- **God's Son, Jesus is very special. Jesus will be King over all the earth forever.**

THE WAY continued...



GAME: DELIVER THE MESSAGE

"Jesus is the Son of God."

Purpose: Children will play a version of Red Light, Green Light to help them remember that Gabriel delivered God's promise of Jesus' birth to Mary.

☒ **Supplies:**

☐ Picture of Mary

SAY > God gave a promise to Mary. The promise was that Mary was going to be the mother of baby Jesus, the Son of God. Pretend you are the angel Gabriel. When you see Mary, stop and tell her about God's promise.

Directions:

1. Children line up, shoulder-to-shoulder, along one side of the play area. Teacher stands on the opposite side of the play area.
2. On your signal, children pretend to be angels* and move toward the teacher.
3. Hold up the picture of Mary. Children stop and say the Whisper Verse. Include motions.
4. On your signal, children move forward again.
5. Repeat steps 3 and 4 several times until children reach the opposite side of the play area.

***Teacher Tip:** Let children use their imaginations as to how they think an angel moves.



GAME: FAMILY PICTURES

"Jesus is the Son of God."

Purpose: Children will understand that Jesus is the Son of God.

☒ **Supplies:**

☐ Sturdy paper

☐ Scissors

☐ Paper

☐ Crayons

Prepare: Cut a frame shape from the sturdy paper.

SAY > In Jesus' family, God was His true Father who lived in heaven. Mary and Joseph cared for Jesus as His parents on earth. God gives you a family, too. Some of families are large and some are small. Each family is special to God. For each of us, God chooses a parent or someone to care for us as a parent does. Draw a picture of yourself with that person who cares for you.

Directions:

1. Each child draws a self-portrait with a parental figure or family member.
2. Volunteers take turns showing their pictures to the other children.
3. **ASK** > Who is God's Son?
4. Children say and sign, "Jesus is the Son of God."
5. **ASK** > Who did God promise would be the mother of God's Son? (Mary.)

***Teacher Tip:** Be aware of and sensitive to children's varied parent situations. A parent may be a mother, father, grandparent, aunt, uncle, sibling and/or special guardian.

THE WAY continued...



SNACK: ANGEL CAKE

"Jesus is the Son of God."

Purpose: Children will eat a snack while considering that God's promised Son is a special baby.

Snack Suggestion: Angel food cake (or similar white fluffy snack) and drink

Directions:

1. Serve snack and drink.
2. **SAY > Let's sing the "Blessing Song."** (Sing to the tune of "Frere Jacques" or other familiar tune.)

God our Father, God our Father. Once again, once again.

Thank you for our blessings. Thank you for our blessings. Amen. Amen.

3. Lead discussion below while children enjoy their snack.
 - **Let's eat some angel food cake.**
 - **Who gave God's promise to Mary?** (The angel Gabriel.) **God promised that Mary would give birth to His Son, Jesus.**
 - **What do parents do to take care of babies?** (Feed, hold, rock, change diapers, etc.) **Soon, Mary would hold baby Jesus and take care of Him.**
 - **Who remembers our Whisper Verse?** (Choose a child to demonstrate motions to Whisper Verse: "Jesus is the Son of God.")
 - **Jesus was a very special baby because He is God's Son.**



CIRCLE OF PRAYER

SAY > God made you and He cares for you. He loves to hear you pray with private words or words you say out loud. Let's fold our hands and close our eyes. As I lift up your name to God in heaven, I will lay my hand on your shoulder. Let's pray together.

PRAY > Dear God, thank you for making us and loving us. We lift up to You a special prayer for _____, _____, _____, (read every name). We pray for our families and friends. Thank you for teaching us how to love one another. Amen.



FINAL FIVE MINUTES

When only 5 minutes remain, begin this segment.

COMPLETED CRAFT

Take home your "Angel Gabriel" craft. Tell someone that the angel Gabriel told Mary about God's promise.

PONDER, PRAY & PLAY

(Distribute Ponder, Pray & Play cards if available.) **Show this card to your family. Talk about how Jesus is God's Son.**

SING

Sing Bible Memory Verse Song: "Give Thanks To The Lord" or other Praise Time! songs.

PLAY

Visit, play and review lesson until it is time to dismiss.



5. GOT TIME?

If time remains, choose from these activities which connect to the lesson.



GAME: SAY & DO LUKE 1:26-38

Purpose: This pantomime version of the Bible Story helps children remember the story details.

☒ **Supplies:** None

Directions: With each phrase, the teacher says the phrase and acts it out with hand motions; then repeats the same phrase and motions with the children.

- **The angel Gabriel came to Mary,** (Point to heaven.)
- **And said, "Do not be afraid,** (Shake head, "no.")
- **For the Lord is pleased with you!** (Thumbs up.)
- **Here's the promise He made:** (Cup hand around ear.)

- **You will have a baby boy.** (Pretend to hold a baby.)
- **Name Him Jesus when He is born.** (Point to baby in your arms.)
- **Jesus is the Son of God;** (Whisper Verse motions.)
- **He'll be King forevermore!"** (Pretend to place crown on head.)



GAME: PASS THE GIFT

"Give thanks to the Lord, for He is good." Psalm 118:1a

Purpose: Children learn the meaning of the Unit 10 Bible Memory Verse.

☒ **Supplies:**

- ☐ Wrapped gift box (with removable lid)
- ☐ Baby Jesus (doll or Baby Jesus craft from Lesson 48 Craft Connection)
- ☐ Unit 10 Bible Memory Verse Song (Play recording or sing without accompaniment.)

☒ **Prep Step:** Place baby Jesus inside the box and close the box lid.

ASK> God gives you lots of things. He gives you food. He gives you people who love you very much. When someone gives something to you, what should you do? (Thank them.) Our Bible Memory Verse tells us we should thank God. It says, "Give thanks to the Lord, for He is good." What can you thank God for?

Directions:

1. Children sit in a circle. Give the gift box to the first child.
2. **ASK> What is one thing you thankful for?** (Child responds.)
3. All children say together, **"Thank you, God!"**
4. Children pass the gift around the circle. While each child holds the gift, repeat steps 3 and 4.
5. After each child has had a turn to hold the box and thank God for something specific, **SAY> Let's see the biggest gift God has given to us.**
6. Choose one child to open the box and discover baby Jesus inside.
7. Sing the Unit 10 Bible Memory Verse Song together as a celebration of thanks to God.

Got Time? continued...



GAME: SHOUT IT OUT

"Give thanks to the Lord, for He is good." Psalm 118:1a

Purpose: To help children memorize and review the Unit 10 Bible Memory Verse.

☑ Supplies:

☐ Unit 10 Bible Memory Verse Song (Play recording or sing without accompaniment.)

SAY> Our Bible Memory Verse tells us that God is good. He is good to you and me!

Directions:

1. Divide the children into two groups. Groups sit on opposite sides of the play area.
2. Help one group learn the first part of the verse: "Give thanks to the Lord..." Help the other group learn: "...for He is good."
3. Announce one way that God has been good to you. Point to each group in order. As you point to each group, they should jump up and shout out their part of the verse.
4. **ASK> Who wants to say one way that God has been good to you?**
5. Pick a volunteer to stand in between the two groups and answer the question.
6. Volunteer points to each group, who, in turn, stand and say their part of the verse.
7. Repeat steps 6-8 with each new volunteer who would like to take a turn.
8. Sing the Bible Memory Verse song. Challenge children to sing it as loud as they can.



FAMILIAR FAVORITES

COLOR THIS STORY

Coloring sheet: "The Angel Tells Mary About God's Promise"

Discuss Bible Story and play Bible Memory Verse Song as children color.

STORY TIME

Gather the children and read a favorite story. This can be a Bible Story, a chapter from *The Adventures of Delbert & Lello*, or a story about preparing for Christmas and Christ's birth.

PONDER, PRAY & PLAY

Review take-home Bible Study card.

PONDER, PRAY & PLAY

Unit 10, Lesson 49: God's Promise to Mary

PONDER! To celebrate the coming of Jesus, create a family Advent Wreath using a circle of greenery and four candles. Light the second candle as the Angel Candle and read Luke 1:26-38. Talk about God's promise to Mary. Who delivered God's promise to Mary?

PRAY! Pray this prayer each day this week: "Lord, thank you for promising to send Your Son, Jesus. We are so happy we can celebrate Jesus' birth this Christmas! Amen."

PLAY! Family Pictures! God gave Jesus a family. He gave you a family, too. Your family is special to God. Ask each family member to draw a self-portrait. You may draw pictures of family members who are not there with you. Trade pictures so everyone has someone else's picture. Each person says something special about the person in the picture he or she is holding.

Unit 10 Bible Memory Verse: Psalm 118:1a

"Give thanks to the Lord, for He is good."