



At-A-Glance: Ages 8-9
God of Wonders: The Wonder of Advent
Unit 10, Lesson 51

Advent 4: An Angel Visits the Shepherds

Lesson Aim: To know the good news of Jesus' birth is for all people.

THE WELCOME

MEET & GREET: What is the best news you have ever been given?

GAME: Pass the Message

THE WORSHIP THE GOD WHO COMES NEAR

Read Worship Scripture: Luke 2:9-14.

Sing songs and worship God.

Bless and collect the offering.

Advent Candle Lighting Ceremony: The Shepherd's Candle

Perform High Seas Adventures script or read storybook.

THE WORD GOOD NEWS FOR THE SHEPHERDS

Children sign note cards; place in Golden Bowl. Classroom Covenant.

Review: Jesus was born.

Point to Jesus on Earth (Circa 1-33 A.D.). **Today, we will learn what happened after Jesus was born. Do you remember where He was born? (Bethlehem.) Point to Bethlehem. Our story begins at night, in the fields outside of Bethlehem where the shepherds took care of their sheep.** Reveal Bible Story Scripture Reference: Luke 2:8-18. Find It First. Highlight Key Verse: Luke 2:11. Pray. Read.

THE WAY GOOD NEWS FOR ALL PEOPLE

Where were the shepherds when the angels announced the good news? (In the fields, watching over their sheep.) Seeing the angel of the Lord was a miracle. How did the shepherds feel when the angel spoke to them? (They were afraid.) Imagine if an angel visited you and your friends. What might you think or feel?

The glory of the Lord shone around the shepherds. The glory of the Lord is God's goodness. It must have shone bright! What good news did the angel bring? (The Savior, Christ the Lord, had been born.) Who did the angel say the good news was for? (All people.)

In Bible times, most shepherds were poor; they were not thought of as an important or powerful. How do you think the shepherds felt to hear, "a savior has been born to you"? The shepherds were just regular people. The good news of Jesus' birth is for everyone. No matter how much money or toys we have, what we look like, where we live, what our families are like, or which school we go to, Jesus was born for all of us.

CHRIST CONNECTION:

After the angel announced to the shepherds that the Savior was born, who suddenly appeared with the angel? (A great company of the heavenly host.) The heavenly host was heaven's army. Check out how David described the angels and the heavenly host 1000 years before they appeared to the shepherds in Bethlehem. Reveal Psalm 103:20-21. Find It First. Highlight. Read.

How does David describe the heavenly host? (God's servants who do His will.) What do you think it sounded like when the heavenly host (heaven's army) praised God that night?

What did the heavenly host do when they appeared? (Praised God.) They praised God and said "Glory to God in the highest and on earth peace to men on whom His favor rests." What do you think that means? It means to praise God in the highest heavens. Jesus would bring peace between God and man to those God favors, those who believe in His Son.

What did the shepherds find when they went to Bethlehem? (Baby Jesus lying in a manger.) They went to the manger and saw the miracle for themselves. They saw the Savior!

THE GOLDEN BOWL: Pray for individuals. Pray the Lord's Prayer.

FINAL FIVE MINUTES:

- TREASURE TREAT: Candy cane
- DAILY WAY CHALLENGE
- OFFERING OF ART: The angel telling the good news to the shepherds
- PRAYER REQUESTS
- BIBLE MEMORY VERSE SONG

GOT TIME?

SNACK: Birthday Party

GAME: Good News Balloon Bop

CRAFT: Birth Announcement

DISCUSSION: Angels

BIBLE MEMORY VERSE ACTIVITIES: Appearing Angel, Memory Verse Circle

BIBLE TIMELINE REVIEW