



Advent 4: An Angel Visits the Shepherds

Lesson Aim: To know God sent an angel to tell the shepherds about Jesus.

THE WORSHIP

Who God is: The God Who Comes Near

THE WORD

Bible Story: Luke 2:8-16

What He has done: God sent an angel to announce the birth of Jesus to the shepherds.

THE WAY

Whisper Verse: "Glory to God in the highest."

BIBLE MEMORY VERSE

"Glory to God in the highest!" Luke 2:14a

BIBLE MEMORY VERSE (Challenge Verse for older children)

"I bring you good news of great joy that will be for all the people. Today in the town of David a Savior has been born to you; He is Christ the Lord. Glory to God in the highest." Luke 2:10b, 11, 14a

Unit 10: The God Who Comes Near			
	Bible Story	What He Has Done	Lesson Aim
48	Advent 1: Gabriel Visits Zechariah, Luke 1:11-22, 62-64	God sent His angel Gabriel to tell Zechariah the good news.	To know God gets believers ready for Christmas.
49	Advent 2: Gabriel and Mary, Luke 1:28-33	God sent His angel Gabriel to prepare Mary for the birth of Jesus.	To know the Lord is with us as He was with Mary.
50	Advent 3: Jesus Is Born, Luke 2:1-7	God gave us His Son, baby Jesus.	To know Jesus was born in a manger in Bethlehem.
51	Advent 4: An Angel Visits the Shepherds, Luke 2:8-16	God sent an angel to announce the birth of Jesus to the shepherds.	To know God sent an angel to tell the shepherds about Jesus.
52	Following the Star, Matthew 2:1-2, 9-11	God sent a star.	To know the wise men followed a star.

TEACHER'S ENCOURAGEMENT

This week, read Isaiah 9:1-7. Please join us in praying, "Thank You, Lord, for sending the good news to the shepherds. Fill the children with Your Spirit that they may grasp the miracle and spread the good news about Christmas. Amen."



Segment	Minutes	Activity	Supplies
THE WELCOME	Up to 15	Picture Schedule Cards	Cards with picture illustrating the activities: WELCOME, WORSHIP, BIBLE, CRAFT, PRAYER, SNACK, GAMES, COLORING, GOING HOME. Envelope labeled FINISHED. Optional: To display schedule, use Velcro to attach laminated Picture Schedule cards to a felt board.
		Treasure Chest	Stamp or sticker of a candy cane
		Whisper Verse	Sign language for "Glory to God in the highest."
THE WORSHIP	Up to 20	Worship Sheet music and recordings for Bible Memory Verse Songs available at ResourceWell.org.	Advent Wreath (Four candles set in a wreath) Unit 10 Bible Memory Verse Song: "I Bring You Good News" (age 4 - grade 5) Other Bible Memory Verse Song Suggestions: "It's Praise Time," "Give Thanks to the Lord," "His One and Only Son," "I Am with You," "I Will Remember" Additional Song Suggestions: "O Come, All Ye Faithful," "Away in a Manger"
		Offering	Baskets
		Worship Illustration	God of Wonders Lesson 51 Delbert & Lello
THE WORD	Up to 10	Watch the Word: Luke 2:8-16	Teacher's Bible with bookmark at Luke 2:10 Visual: Shepherd's staff or candy cane Flannel board/figures: Angel, shepherds, baby Jesus Clay/play-dough: Shepherd's staff
THE WAY:	Up to 25	Craft: Shepherd Ornament	Angel created in Lesson 48, white felt (or fabric or paper), white paper, brown pipe cleaner for shepherd's staff, glue, crayons or markers
		Alternative Craft: Advent Wreath	See instructions.
		Circle of Prayer or Lord's Prayer	Lord's Prayer word and picture book
		Snack: Happy Birthday, Jesus!	A birthday cake or cupcakes to celebrate Jesus' birthday
		Unit 10 Games: Sand Search	Bin or container of clean sand, nativity scene pieces such as angel, baby Jesus in manger, Mary, Joseph, shepherd, sheep, star
		Thumbs Up or Thumbs Down	None, optional: hand puppet or finger puppets
		Gabriel's Message Ball Roll	Soft textured ball used for rolling (optional: decorate ball with Christmas colors)
		Blanket Ball Praise	Blanket or sturdy tablecloth, balloon or ball
		Where is Baby Jesus?	Flashlight, small baby doll or picture of baby Jesus
		Good News Musical Chairs	Unit 10 Bible Memory Verse Song, CD player, chairs
		Scenes from High Seas Adventures	The scripts for Lessons 48, 49, 50, 51, 52
		Act it Out	Bible times clothing or stick puppets of Gabriel, Zechariah, Mary, Joseph, baby Jesus, shepherds, wise men, star
	Final 5	Final Five	Daily Way (Adaptation): Unit 10, Lesson 51 Color This Story: "The Angel and the Shepherds"

RESOURCES: Supplemental materials are available at ResourceWell.org.



Glory to God in the highest

THE WELCOME

PICTURE SCHEDULE: WELCOME TIME

WELCOME > WORSHIP > BIBLE > CRAFT > PRAYER > SNACK > GAMES > COLORING > GOING HOME

Welcome each child as they arrive. **Hello _____. I'm glad you are here! Come and see what we are going to do today.** Point to each card on the Picture Schedule board. **Today, we will WELCOME everyone. We will read the BIBLE story and make a CRAFT. We will have PRAYER time and eat a SNACK. We will play GAMES and enjoy COLORING a picture about today's story.**

Open the Treasure Chest to find today's treasure. Child unlocks the Treasure Chest to receive a sticker or stamp of a candy cane. **A candy cane at Christmas reminds us of the staff a shepherd holds when he watches over his sheep. Let this stamp (or sticker) of a candy cane remind you of the shepherds who heard the angels say, "Glory to God in the highest."** Teach the 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: "Glory to God in the highest."

(For visual demonstrations, see www.signingsavvy.com.)

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

- | | |
|--------------------------|--|
| "Glory" | Place palms together with the left palm up and the right palm down at waist level, bring hands apart while wiggling fingers. The right palm ends level with the right shoulder while the left hand ends level with the left hip. |
| "to God" | First, touch tips of index fingers together. Then, the right hand is lowered and then slightly raised in front of face with palm facing left and fingers together. |
| "in the highest." | Hands make a circle above the head with palms facing inward and ending outward. This is the sign for heaven. |

Allow children to enjoy free play until everyone has 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:** "Glory to God in the highest," Luke 2:14a. 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.



The God who comes near

THE WORSHIP

PICTURE SCHEDULE: WORSHIP TIME

WELCOME > WORSHIP > BIBLE > CRAFT > PRAYER > SNACK > GAMES > COLORING > GOING HOME

Choose a child to remove the WELCOME picture card and place it in the FINISHED envelope. **We have finished our Welcome Time. Now, we will have our Worship Time.**

Children may worship in a large group with other classes or in a quiet room with a worship CD or DVD.

Teacher Tip: To help children identify time set aside for worship, play "It's Praise Time!" as children move to a designated place for praise songs, offering, and the worship illustration. Children who are nonverbal may enjoy participating in the music by playing children's percussion instruments such as maracas, jingle bells, wood blocks, or small tambourines. Children who are sensitive to sound may prefer to wear noise reduction headphones.

To prepare for the lighting of the Christmas candles, light the first three candles on the Advent wreath.



It's Praise Time—our time to sing praise to the God who comes near. He came near when He sent an angel with good news to the shepherds. We can come near to God today by giving, singing, and praying to Him. Let's start by giving our offering now. Play: "Away in a Manger" as background music while collecting the offering.

Our Whisper Verse for today is, "Glory to God in the highest." Review the Whisper Verse with the sign language. When we say, "Glory to God in the highest," we are giving praise to God who is way up high in heaven. Our Whisper Verse is the same as our Bible Memory Verse. Let's sing our Bible Memory Verse Song right now. Each time we sing, "Glory to God in the highest," let's use our strongest, happiest voices and our Whisper Verse motions. Sing: "I Bring You Good News."



The Lighting of the Christmas Candles: The Shepherds' Candle

Advent Wreath: 4 candles set in a wreath

We light the Christmas candles to get our hearts ready to celebrate Christmas. Last time, we lit the Angel's candle, Mary's candle, and the Bethlehem candle. Today, we light the fourth candle, the Shepherds' candle. We light it to remind us of the shepherds who heard the good news of Jesus' birth from an angel. Choose a child to assist in lighting the fourth of the four candles on the Advent wreath. The candle lighting takes place during the performance of *The Adventures of Delbert & Lello* puppet script or after reading the storybook version.



Before we light the Shepherds' candle, let's see if Delbert and Lello know about the Shepherds' candle. Perform *The Adventures of Delbert and Lello* puppet script or read storybook: God of Wonders Unit 10, Lesson 51. If you chose to read the storybook, have a child light the fourth candle now.



The angel brought good news that a special baby had been born. Who was that special baby? (Jesus.) We can spread the good news, too, just as the angels and the shepherds did. Sing: "O Come, All Ye Faithful" and "His One and Only Son."

* May substitute Lesson 51 High Seas Adventures script or storybook.



An angel brings good news to the shepherds

THE WORD

PICTURE SCHEDULE: BIBLE TIME

WELCOME > WORSHIP > BIBLE > CRAFT > PRAYER > SNACK > GAMES > COLORING > GOING HOME

Choose a child to remove the WORSHIP picture card and place it in the FINISHED envelope. **We have finished our Worship Time. Now, we will have our Bible Time.**

Last time, we learned baby Jesus was born in a manger. Today, we will hear about the shepherds who heard the good news of Jesus' birth. Handle the Bible as a special treasure, leaving it open to Luke 2:10.

WATCH THE WORD: LUKE 2:8-16

Read the points below or retell the passage in your own words using the points below as a general guide. To illustrate the story, display a shepherd's staff or candy cane. Have children assist by placing Bible Story figures on a flannel board. Other visual options include Color This Story or a related picture. Optional: To help children focus, have them create a shepherd's staff from clay or play-dough as they listen.

- The shepherds were out in the fields,
- Watching over their sheep at night.
- An angel of the Lord appeared;
- It was a surprising sight.

- "Do not be afraid," the angel said,
- "For I bring you good news.
- Today in the town of Bethlehem
- A Savior was born for you.

- "You will find Him in a manger;
- The baby wrapped in cloth.
- It is good news for all people;
- He is come to save us all."

- "Glory to God in the highest,"
- An army of angels said.
- The shepherds said, "Let's go and see
- This baby in Bethlehem!"



What kind of news did the angel bring? (Good news.) Let's find our answer in the Bible. Read Luke 2:10 from the teacher's Bible.

What did the big group of angels say? ("Glory to God in the highest!") Our Whisper Verse tells us the answer. Let's say it together, "Glory to God in the highest!" Include sign language or hand motions. **It means praise God who is way up high in heaven.**



We can share the good news

THE WAY

PICTURE SCHEDULE: CRAFT TIME

WELCOME > WORSHIP > BIBLE > CRAFT > PRAYER > SNACK > GAMES > COLORING > GOING HOME

Choose a child to remove the BIBLE picture card and place it in the FINISHED envelope. **We have finished our Bible Time. Now, it is Craft Time.**

CRAFT: SHEPHERD ORNAMENT

Purpose: To know God sent an angel to tell the shepherds about Jesus.

Supplies: Advent Angel craft created in Lesson 48, white felt (or fabric or paper), sturdy white paper, brown pipe cleaner, glue, crayons or markers

Prepare: From white felt, cut a 4-inch triangle. Draw and cut out the shape of a shepherd from sturdy white paper. Cut a length of brown pipe cleaner for the shepherd's staff.

Alternate Craft: Instead of adding this ornament to the Advent Angel created in lesson 48, create an individual ornament by punching a hole in the top and threading ribbon through the hole.

Directions:

1. Use crayons or markers to color the shepherd.
2. Glue the shepherd cut-out onto the felt triangle.
3. Attach the shepherd's staff.

Craft Discussion:

- **What was the good news?** (Baby Jesus was born.)
- **Who is the good news for?** (All people.)
- **Who remembers what "Glory to God in the highest" means?** (Praise God who is way up high in heaven.)

THE WAY *continued...*



CIRCLE OF PRAYER/THE LORD'S PRAYER

PICTURE SCHEDULE: PRAYER TIME

WELCOME > WORSHIP > BIBLE > CRAFT > PRAYER > SNACK > GAMES > COLORING > GOING HOME

Choose a child to remove the CRAFT picture card and place it in the FINISHED envelope. **We have finished our Craft Time. Now, it is Prayer Time.**

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.

Dear God, thank You for making us and loving us. We lift up to You a special prayer for ____, ____, ____ (say every name). **We pray for our families and friends. Thank You for teaching us how to love one another. Amen.** You may add the Lord's Prayer with the word picture book.

PICTURE SCHEDULE: SNACK TIME

WELCOME > WORSHIP > BIBLE > CRAFT > PRAYER > SNACK > GAMES > COLORING > GOING HOME

Choose a child to remove the PRAYER picture card and place it in the FINISHED envelope. **We have finished our Prayer Time. Now, it is Snack Time.**

Teacher Tip: It is important to keep a record of all dietary restrictions and allergies accessible. Some parents may prefer to bring their child's snack. Depending on the dietary needs of your classroom, you may determine it is best to omit snack time completely.

SNACK: HAPPY BIRTHDAY, JESUS!

Purpose: To remember and celebrate the day Jesus was born.

Snack Suggestion: A birthday cake or cupcakes to celebrate Jesus' birthday

Today's birthday snack is part of our celebration of Jesus' birth. When do we celebrate Jesus' birthday? (Christmas day, December 25.)

Directions:

1. Serve snack and drink.
2. **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.
 - **Who remembers our Whisper Verse?** ("Glory to God in the highest.") **What does that mean?** (It means praise God who is way up high in heaven.)
 - **What was the good news?** (Jesus was born to save us.)
 - **Who is the good news for?** (All people.)
 - **Who can you share that news with today?** (Family and friends.)

THE WAY (GAME OPTIONS)

UNIT 10 GAME OPTIONS

Play one or more of the activities below until the last five minutes of class then proceed to Final Five.

PICTURE SCHEDULE: GAMES TIME

WELCOME > WORSHIP > BIBLE > CRAFT > PRAYER > SNACK > GAMES > COLORING > GOING HOME

Choose a child to remove the SNACK picture card and place it in the FINISHED envelope. **We have finished our Snack Time. Now, is our time to play Games.**

GAME: SAND SEARCH

Purpose: This sand sifting activity soothes children. The items in the bin can be used to introduce the Bible stories or the Unit 10 Worship Attribute: The God Who Comes Near.

Supplies: Bin or container of clean sand, nativity scene pieces such as angel, baby Jesus in manger, Mary, Joseph, shepherd, sheep, star

Directions:

1. Children take turns reaching into the sand in search of the objects.
2. Teacher and children discuss each object as it is located.
3. When all the objects have been located, display them on a tabletop or on the surface of the sand.
4. Children feel each item as the teacher explains their connection to the Unit 10 Bible stories about the birth of Jesus. **The angel reminds us of the angel Gabriel who announced the birth of Jesus and of the angels the shepherds saw in their fields on the night Jesus was born. The shepherd (or sheep) reminds us of the shepherds who ran to find baby Jesus and told Mary about the angels in the field. Mary and Joseph remind us that Jesus had an earthly mother and father who cared for Him. The baby Jesus reminds us that Jesus was born in a manger in Bethlehem. The star reminds us that God used a star to lead the wise men to Bethlehem to find baby Jesus.**

GAME: THUMBS UP OR THUMBS DOWN?

Purpose: This nonverbal true-false game helps children master the Bible story or the Unit 10 Bible Memory Verse.

Supplies: None, optional: hand puppet or finger puppets

Directions:

1. Teacher or puppet retells today's Bible story or Bible Memory Verse, pausing after each phrase to say, "Thumbs up or thumbs down?"
 - If retelling the Bible story, read it in phrases. For some phrases, state accurate descriptions. For other phrases, replace the truth with silly facts. For example, say, **The shepherds told the angel about baby Jesus. Thumbs up or thumbs down?** Children respond with thumbs down. **The angel told the shepherds about baby Jesus. Thumbs up or thumbs down?** Children respond with thumbs up.
 - If reviewing the Bible Memory Verse, read it in phrases. For some phrases, read it correctly. For other phrases, replace a word with another word that makes no sense. For example, say, **I bring you good news of great joy that will be for most of the people. Thumbs up or thumbs down?** Children respond with thumbs down. **"I bring you good news of great joy that will be for all the people." Thumbs up or thumbs down?** Children respond with thumbs up.

THE WAY (GAME OPTIONS) *continued...*

GAME: GABRIEL'S MESSAGE BALL ROLL

Purpose: To remind the children that the Lord is with them.

Supplies: Soft, textured ball used for rolling (optional: decorate ball with Christmas colors)

The angel Gabriel appeared, called Mary's name, and spoke to her. At first, Mary was surprised and afraid of the angel. Imagine what it would be like for an angel to appear in this room right now and tell you that the Lord is with you.

Directions:

1. Children sit in a circle.
2. Roll the ball to a child and lead everyone in saying,
Child's name, child's name, do not be afraid.
The Lord is with you every day.
3. Assist the child in choosing another child to whom he or she will roll the ball.
4. Repeat steps 2-3 until every child has a turn.

GAME: BLANKET BALL PRAISE

Purpose: Children apply the Unit 10 Bible Memory Verse and see how high their praise balloon can go.

Supplies: Blanket or sturdy tablecloth, balloon or ball

God is in heaven. Where is heaven? Prompt the children to say, "Heaven is higher than the clouds in the sky." **When Jesus was born, the angels filled the sky and said, "Glory to God in the highest." That means "Praise God who is way up high in heaven." Each of us will get a turn to praise God for something wonderful He has done. Then we will all say, "Glory to God in the highest." Let's see how high we can bounce our balloon of praise.**

Directions:

1. Children stand or sit in a circle holding the edges of the blanket.
2. Place a balloon (or ball) in the center of the blanket.
3. Choose a child to praise God. Ask the child to finish the sentence: **"God, I praise you for_____."**
4. Lead the children in saying, **"Glory to God in the highest!"** and then have them quickly raise the blanket to toss the balloon into the air.
5. Play until every child has a turn.

THE WAY (GAME OPTIONS) *continued...*

GAME: WHERE IS BABY JESUS?

Purpose: The star's light (flashlight) helps children find the hidden baby.

Supplies: Flashlight, small baby doll or picture of baby Jesus

The Bible says the star appeared over the place where baby Jesus lay in Bethlehem. Let's pretend we are following the star's light to find baby Jesus.

Directions:

1. Choose a child to hide the baby doll (or picture of a baby).
2. The other children close their eyes as the teacher assists that child in hiding the baby doll.
3. Choose a child to find the baby doll.
4. Point the light around the room to guide the child in the search for the hidden baby doll.
5. After the child finds the baby doll, assist that child in hiding it in a new place.
6. Repeat the game until every child has a turn.

GAME: GOOD NEWS MUSICAL CHAIRS

Purpose: This version of Musical Chairs familiarizes children with the Unit 10 Bible Memory Verse.

Supplies: Unit 10 Bible Memory Verse Song "I Bring You Good News," CD player, chair for each child

Prepare: Set chairs back-to-back in a row.

Teacher Tip: In this version of musical chairs, no chair is removed and all the children remain in the game. Leave one or more spaces at the end of the row of chairs for any children in wheelchairs. Encourage quick listening and affirm those who are the first to hear the music stop and are seated.

To practice our Bible Memory Verse Song, let's play Good News Musical Chairs.

Directions:

1. As the Bible Memory Verse Song plays, children march around the row of chairs and sing.
2. The teacher stops the music at different times during the song.
3. When the music stops, children find the nearest chair and sit immediately.

GAME: SCENES FROM HIGH SEAS ADVENTURES

Purpose: To learn applications of the Unit 10 Bible stories, older children act out the High Seas Adventures scripts.

Supplies: High Seas Adventures scripts for Lessons 48, 49, 50, 51, 52

Directions:

1. Choose the script that corresponds with today's Bible story.
2. Assign each child a character name and improvise so all the children can be their favorite character, a new character, or just take turns being the same character.
3. Act it out!

THE WAY (GAME OPTIONS) *continued...*

GAME: ACT IT OUT

Purpose: To help learn the Unit 10 stories, children act them out in costumes or with stick puppets.

Supplies: Bible times clothing or stick puppets of Gabriel, Zechariah, Mary, Joseph, baby Jesus, shepherds, wise men, star

Optional: Children can wear costumes and act out the story or they can hold craft sticks with the story characters attached. You may choose one or more stories.

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

ADVENT 1: GABRIEL VISITS ZECHARIAH

- **God sent the angel to Zechariah one day,** (Connect fingers overhead, as a halo.)
- **"Your prayer has been answered. Do not be afraid.** (Make praying hands.)
- **Your wife is old, but will soon have a baby boy.** (Rock baby in arms.)
- **You will name him John and he will bring you great joy.** (Make a happy face.)
- **He will make hearts ready to meet God's Son.** (Place hands on heart.)
- **He will prepare the way when Jesus comes."** (Point to heaven.)
- **But Zechariah did not believe this news at first.** (Shake head no.)
- **So the angel Gabriel said, "You will speak no more words."** (Cup hand over mouth.)
- **So Zechariah spoke not, not a word could he say,** (Place index finger over lips.)
- **Until the baby was born and given John as a name.** (Rock baby in arms.)
- **Then his mouth was opened and his words came out,** (Move mouth, as if speaking.)
- **And his very first words praised God out loud!** (Palms up, as if praising God.)

ADVENT 2: GABRIEL AND MARY

- **Mary was a teenager, good and kind.** (Thumbs up, as sign of approval.)
- **One day she saw an angel bright.** (Hand on forehead to shade eyes from bright light.)
- **The angel Gabriel said, "The Lord is with you."** (Motions for "The Lord is with you.")
- **Mary was surprised. She wondered what to do.** (Palms up, looking surprised.)
- **But Gabriel said, "Do not be afraid.** (Index finger wags to express "no.")
- **The Lord sent me to you this day.** (Point to self.)
- **The Lord is very pleased with you.** (Thumbs up, as sign of approval.)
- **He's giving you His Son; here is what to do.** (Point, as if teaching.)
- **Name Him Jesus when He is born.** (Rock baby in arms.)
- **He will be King forever more."** (Hold imaginary crown on head.)

ADVENT 3: JESUS IS BORN

- **Mary and Joseph traveled to Bethlehem town.** (Walk in place.)
- **They went there for it was Joseph's hometown.** (Point as in stating a fact.)
- **They arrived after traveling for a very long while.** (Look at wrist watch.)
- **Soon it was time to have Mary's first child.** (Rub belly.)
- **He was born in a manger in Bethlehem,** (Rock baby in arms.)
- **For there was no room for them in the inn.** (Shake head no.)
- **Mary wrapped baby Jesus in swaddling clothes,** (Rock baby in arms.)
- **And lay Him in the manger—the place that God chose.** (Point to heaven.)

THE WAY (GAME OPTIONS) *continued...*

ADVENT 4: AN ANGEL VISITS THE SHEPHERDS

- **The shepherds were out in the fields** (Fold arms.)
- **Watching over their sheep at night.** (Hand across brow, searching.)
- **An angel of the Lord appeared;** (Raise arms as wings.)
- **It was a surprising sight!** (Look surprised.)

- **"Do not be afraid," the angel said,** (Shake head.)
- **"For I bring you good news.** (Point to self.)
- **Today in the town of Bethlehem** (Point toward a direction.)
- **A Savior was born for you.** (Point to others.)

- **"You will find Him in a manger;** (Point to the ground.)
- **The baby wrapped in cloth.** (Rock baby in arms.)
- **It is good news for all people,** (Thumbs up.)
- **He is come to save us all."** (Hands on heart.)

- **"Glory to God in the highest,"** (Raise both hands high.)
- **The sky full of angels said.** (Point to the sky.)
- **The shepherds said, "Let's go and see** (Beckoning gesture.)
- **This baby in Bethlehem!"** (Rock baby in arms.)

FOLLOWING THE STAR

- **When Jesus was born in Bethlehem,** (Rock baby in arms.)
- **The wise men wanted to worship Him.** (Raise palms in worship.)
- **They traveled very, very far.** (Walk in place.)
- **They found Him by following the star.** (Point to the star.)

- **To Bethlehem, it led their way.** (Walk in place.)
- **It stopped at the place where Jesus stayed.** (Stop walking.)
- **The wise men, they were full of joy.** (Smile.)
- **They bowed down and worshiped the little boy.** (Bow head and fold hands in prayer.)

- **Their treasures to Jesus they did bring.** (Hide imaginary treasure in hand.)
- **They brought Him gifts fit for a king.** (Open hand to show the treasure.)
- **Incense, myrrh and gold they gave** (Make giving gesture.)
- **For He was the King who came to save.** (Point up to heaven.)

THE WAY (GAME OPTIONS) *continued...*



When only 5 minutes remain, begin this segment.

FINAL FIVE MINUTES

PICTURE SCHEDULE: COLORING TIME

WELCOME > WORSHIP > BIBLE > CRAFT > PRAYER > SNACK > GAMES > COLORING > GOING HOME

Choose a child to remove the GAMES picture card and place it in the FINISHED envelope. **We have finished our Game Time. Now, is our time for coloring the picture of today's story.**

COMPLETED CRAFT: Take home your "Shepherd Ornament" craft. You may attach it to the robe of the angel you made a few weeks ago or hang it in your home. Share the good news the shepherds heard; baby Jesus was born!

DAILY WAY (ADAPTATION FOR CHILDREN WITH DISABILITIES): Distribute this version of the Daily Way, if available. **Show the Daily Way to your family. Talk about what it would have been like to be a shepherd in the field hearing the news of Jesus' birth from an angel.**

COLOR THIS STORY: "The Angel and the Shepherds." Discuss the Bible story and play the Unit 10 Bible Memory Verse Song "I Bring You Good News" as the children color.

As coloring is completed or parents arrive:

PICTURE SCHEDULE: GOING HOME

WELCOME > WORSHIP > BIBLE > CRAFT > PRAYER > SNACK > GAMES > COLORING > GOING HOME

Choose a child to remove the COLORING picture card and place it in the FINISHED envelope. **We have finished our Coloring Time. Now, it is time for Going Home.**

THE DAILY WAY

Unit 10, Lesson 51: Advent 4—An Angel Visits the Shepherds

PONDER! To celebrate the coming of Jesus as a family, light candles on your Advent wreath. (A circle of greenery and four candles; place one additional candle in the center to be lit on Christmas Eve as the Christ candle.) This week, gather your family to light four candles and read Luke 2:8-16. Discuss what it may have been like to hear the angels say, "Glory to God in the highest."

PRAY! Pray this prayer each day this week: "Lord, thank You for coming near to the shepherds in the field. Thank You for coming near to everyone during this Christmas season. Amen."

PLAY! Go outside at night and look at the sky. Imagine what the shepherds saw and heard that night. Afterward, make a Christmas card to share the good news of Jesus' birth with a friend. Draw a picture of an angel and the shepherds. Fold the paper in half with your drawing on the inside. Ask a family member to write "Good News!" on the front of card.

Unit 10 Bible Memory Verse: Luke 2:14a
"Glory to God in the highest."

Unit 10 Bible Memory Challenge Verse:

"I bring you good news of great joy that will be for all the people. Today in the town of David a Savior has been born to you; He is Christ the Lord. Glory to God in the highest." Luke 2:10b, 11, 14a