



Advent 1: Announcing the King

Lesson Aim: To know we can bring
 the message to others.

THE WORSHIP

Who God is: The King Who Came to Us

THE WORD

Bible Story: Luke 1:28-33, 37-38

What He has done: God sent the angel Gabriel to Mary to announce the coming of Jesus as King.

Key Verse: Luke 1:32-33

THE WAY

Christ Connection: Isaiah 9:6-7

BIBLE MEMORY VERSE

"The kingdom of the world has become the kingdom of our Lord and of His Christ,
 and He will reign for ever and ever."

"KING OF KINGS AND LORD OF LORDS." Revelation 11:15b; 19:16b

Unit 10: The King Who Came To Us			
	Bible Story	What He Has Done	Lesson Aim
48	Advent 1: Announcing the King, Luke 1:28-33, 37-38	God sent the angel Gabriel to Mary to announce the coming of Jesus as King.	To know we can bring the message to others.
49	Advent 2: Naming the King, Matthew 1:17-23	God brought Jesus into the world through Abraham's descendants.	To know Jesus came to save His people from their sins.
50	Advent 3: Birthplace of the King, Luke 2:1-7	God chose Bethlehem as the birthplace of King Jesus.	To understand why Jesus was born in Bethlehem.
51	Advent 4: Worshiping the King, Luke 2:8-20	God led the shepherds to see and worship King Jesus.	To understand worship as a lifestyle.
52	Recognizing the King: The Magi and Herod, Matthew 2:1-3, 7-15	God led the Magi to Jesus.	To recognize God's presence and leading in our lives.

TEACHER'S ENCOURAGEMENT

This week, read Isaiah 9:6-7. Please join us in praying, "Thank you, Lord, for sending us the King of kings. Help us share that good news with the children so they might share it with others. Amen."

WHAT ABOUT SANTA? Many cultures incorporate the story of Saint Nicholas (Santa Claus) into their family traditions at Christmas. Many young children are very excited about this tradition. To honor all parents, our role as Bible teachers is not to address (validate or invalidate) their family traditions, but to redirect their focus to celebrate the gift of God's Son.



**THE WORSHIP
THE WORD &
THE WAY**

Segment	Minutes	Activity	Supplies
THE WELCOME	Up to 15	Meet & Greet	None
		Game: Baby Announcement Puzzle	Paper, envelopes
THE WORSHIP	Up to 20	Worship Sheet music and recordings for Bible Memory Verse Songs available at ResourceWell.org	Advent wreath (See GOT TIME?) Unit 10 Bible Memory Verse Song: "King of Kings" Other Bible Memory Verse Song Suggestions: "I Bring You Good News" Additional Hymn Suggestions: "Angels We Have Heard On High," "What Child Is This," "Away in a Manger," "Joy to the World," "O Come, All Ye Faithful," "Hark! The Herald Angels Sing," "We Three Kings" Additional Song Collection Suggestions: Worship Jamz Christmas—Worship Jamz Shout Praises Kids Christmas—Integrity Media
		Advent Scripture Reading: Luke 1:31-33	Bible
		Offering	Baskets
		Worship Illustration	Lesson 48 King City Chronicles script or storybook
THE WORD	Up to 10	Read the Word: Luke 1:28-33, 37-38	Bibles, Bible Story Scripture reference poster, highlighters
THE WAY	Up to 25	Discuss the Word	Bibles, Christ Connection Scripture reference poster, highlighters
		Christ Connection: Isaiah 9:6-7	
	Final 5	Golden Bowl	Golden Bowl, pencils, note cards
GOT TIME?	Up to 10	Snack: Tasty Trumpets	Any horn or tube-shaped snack
	Up to 10	Game: Pass the Message	3 sheets of standard-size paper, pencil
	Up to 10	Craft: Angel Ornament	3 white coffee filters, 1 pompom or 2 cotton balls, 1 gold chenille pipe cleaner, gold glitter paint, optional: substitute gold glitter and glue/glue sticks for the gold glitter paint
	Up to 5	Discussion: Anno Domini (A.D.)	Bible open to Isaiah 9:7
	Up to 10	Bible Memory Verse Activity: Crown Toss	Unit 10 Bible Memory Verse poster, two scepters (stick or tube decorated with foil or paint), two crowns (toy or paper)
	Up to 10	Bible Memory Verse Activity: Royal Musical Chairs	One chair per child, Unit 10 Bible Memory Verse Song "King of Kings," CD player
	Up to 5	Bible Timeline Review	Date with story title or name printed on card

RESOURCES: Supplemental materials are available at ResourceWell.org.



Getting started

THE WELCOME

To spark anticipation, encourage arriving children to meet and greet one another with today's question.
Meet & Greet Question: What is the best message you have ever received?

GAME: BABY ANNOUNCEMENT PUZZLE

Purpose: Children race to put together a message that announces Jesus' birth.

Supplies: Paper, envelopes

Prepare: Print the following message on one sheet of paper per team. Cut each sheet into 8 puzzle pieces. Place each puzzle set in an envelope.

A BABY IS BORN!

From: God

Messenger: The angel Gabriel

To: Mary and the whole world

Message: King Jesus is coming!

Celebrate His birthday on Christmas Day!

We have received an announcement, but it's in pieces. Let's see which team will be the first to put the pieces together and discover the message.

Directions:

1. Divide the class into teams of 3 or 4 children per team. If possible, make sure at least one child on each team can read.
2. Give an envelope to each team.
3. On your signal, teams race to put together the puzzle to find the message.
4. Teams raise their hands when they have completed the puzzle.
5. Let the first team finished read the message.

This baby announcement is like the message God gave to Gabriel to tell Mary. Let's find out what Gabriel announced to Mary.



The King who came to us

THE WORSHIP

Teacher Tip: To help children identify time set aside for worship, designate a special corner or area for singing, collecting offering, and watching the worship illustration. Play music as children move to the designated area.



Today, we worship the King who came to us. He knew we couldn't get to heaven on our own, so He came to us. He sent an angel to Mary with the message that King Jesus would come soon and she would be His mother. Let's celebrate that good news by giving our offering to Him. Sing: "I Bring You Good News" as the offering is collected.



Advent Candle Lighting Ceremony: Mary's Candle

Advent Wreath: 4 candles set in a wreath of greenery with gold trim

At Christmastime, we get our hearts ready to celebrate the coming of King Jesus by lighting the candles on the Advent Wreath. Advent means coming—the coming of Jesus. The Advent season helps get our hearts ready to celebrate Christmas. Our Advent Wreath is round; it has no end, just as God's love for us has no end. It is decorated with gold to remind us that Jesus is the King of kings.

Each candle on the Advent Wreath stands for one of the four Sundays before Christmas. Today, we light the first candle of Advent: Mary's Candle. Mary was a young teenager who loved God very much. God sent the angel Gabriel to bring Mary a special message about the coming of King Jesus. Choose a child to light the first candle now.



As you look at the candlelight, listen to what the angel Gabriel said to Mary. Read Luke 1:31-33.



Today, we celebrate the fact that King Jesus came to us. Sing: "What Child Is This." **He came to us as a baby, yet He was and always will be the King above all kings.** Sing Unit 10 Bible Memory Verse Song: "King of Kings." You may also choose to sing songs that focus on the birth of Christ.



Perform King City Chronicles script or read storybook: Kings & Kingdoms Unit 10, Lesson 48.



Gabriel appears to Mary

THE WORD

Teacher Tip: As you move from worship to instruction, change rooms or locations within a room to help redirect the children's focus to the Bible story. During this transition time, have each child write his or her name on a card and place it in the Golden Bowl.

Before we read God's Word, let's go over our Class Covenant. A covenant is an agreement. Just as God made a covenant with His people, I ask each of you to make this covenant promise with me today. Listen as I read our Class Covenant: "I will keep my eyes on my teacher, my mouth in control, my ears on God's Word—knowing God is my goal."

Last time, we learned God used a young woman named Esther in saving His people in Persia. 400 years later, God sent His Son, King Jesus, to save the world. If a Bible Timeline is available, point out Jesus on Earth (Circa 1-33 A.D.). A.D. stands for Anno Domini which means "the Year of our Lord." A.D. begins with Jesus' birth and continues until the end of time. For a Bible Timeline Review activity, see the Got Time? segment of this lesson. **Throughout the time when judges and kings ruled over Israel, God's people hoped for a perfect king. When the time was right, God sent an angel named Gabriel with a message about this king for a young teenage girl in the small town of Nazareth.** If a map is available, point out Nazareth in Israel. **God would use her in saving the whole world. Let's hear what the Bible says about that message.**



Let's play Find It First! Bring out your Bible; keep it right in front of you. Hand out spare Bibles. **Today's Scripture verse is behind the curtain** (or secret door, secret window, etc.). Child reveals the Bible Story Scripture reference: Luke 1:28-33, 37-38. **Let's see who can Find It First. Ready? Set? Go!** Children race to find it first. The winner helps others find it. **Let's highlight our Key Verse:** Luke 1:32-33.

Before we read, let's stand and ask God to open our eyes, ears, hearts, and minds to His Word today. Who would like to pray that for us? Child prays aloud. **Be seated.** Read Luke 1:28-33, 37-38.



We can bring the message

THE WAY

What was the first thing Gabriel said to Mary? (“Greetings you are highly favored. The Lord is with you.”) **How do you think Mary felt when the angel Gabriel greeted her?** (Children respond.) **How would you feel if an angel appeared and said you have found favor with God?** (Children respond.) **Mary was not yet married to Joseph. How do you think she felt when she heard she was going to have a baby that would be the Son of God?** (Children respond.)

What did Gabriel tell Mary about the baby she was going to have? (He would be God’s Son. His name would be Jesus. He would be King forever. His kingdom would never end.) **Mary was a Jewish teenager who loved God. Gabriel told Mary her baby would be God’s Son, Jesus. Then, he described Jesus in words the Jewish people knew very well. He said Jesus would reign over the “House of Jacob,” another name for God’s people. Gabriel said the Lord would give King David’s throne to Jesus. That does not mean Jesus went to the palace in Jerusalem to sit on King David’s throne. It’s a way of saying King Jesus will rule over God’s people, just as King David did. What does it mean to reign?** (To rule over as a king rules over his kingdom or nation.) **How long did Gabriel say King Jesus would reign?** (Forever.) **What did Gabriel say about Jesus’ kingdom?** (It would never end.)

Just as Gabriel brought the message to Mary, we can bring the message to our friends in words they will understand. How would you explain the true meaning of Christmas in your own words to a friend who has not read about it in the Bible? (Children respond.) **The Christmas story includes angels, miracles, and God’s Son coming to earth as a baby. Is there a part of the story that might seem impossible to you or your friends?** (Children respond.) **Gabriel said, “Nothing is impossible with God.” How can those words help you and your friends trust that the words of the Bible are true?** (Children respond.) **How can those words encourage you or a friend who is facing a situation that seems impossible?** (Children respond.)



Connecting the Old Testament, the New Testament, and Us

CHRIST CONNECTION

Throughout the time when judges and kings ruled Israel, God’s people hoped for a perfect king. Gabriel announced the coming of this King to Mary. Check out what Isaiah said about this King over 700 years before Gabriel announced the news!



FIND IT FIRST > Everyone, place your Bible closed on your lap. Choose a child to reveal the Christ Connection Scripture reference: Isaiah 9:6-7. **Let’s see who can Find It First! Ready? Set? Go! Find it and highlight it.** Read Isaiah 9:6-7.

The prophet Isaiah told everyone the good news about King Jesus. So did the angel Gabriel. What part of Isaiah’s prophecy reminds you of Gabriel’s message? (Children respond.) **Both Gabriel and Isaiah said the child who would be born would reign on David’s throne. Both said His kingdom would not end. What four names did Isaiah say the King would be called?** (Wonderful Counselor, Mighty God, Everlasting Father, Prince of Peace.) **Which name best describes the way you think of Jesus?** (Children respond.) **How would you describe Jesus to your friends?** (Children respond.) **Ask God to show you who needs to hear about Jesus this week.**

THE WAY *continued...*



Revelation 5:8

GOLDEN BOWL

Teacher Tip: Write the names of classmates, local church leaders, and children in other nations or others who need prayer on small pieces of paper. Place the papers in a golden bowl.

Revelation 5:8 says our prayers are like sweet smelling incense in the golden bowls at God's throne. I'm going to lift each one of your names to God's throne as you pray for each person silently. Then, we will pray the Lord's Prayer (Matthew 6:9-13) aloud together. Let's pray.

Lord God, we lift up to Your throne the name of each child here. We trust You to watch over us and our needs, the ones we say aloud and the ones hidden in our hearts. First, we lift up to You ____, ____, ____. Read names in Golden Bowl.

Now, we pray the prayer Your Son taught us: Our Father, who art in heaven, hallowed be Your name. Your kingdom come, Your will be done on earth as it is in heaven. Give us this day our daily bread. Forgive us our sins, as we forgive those who sin against us. And lead us not into temptation, but deliver us from the evil one. For Yours is the kingdom and the power and the glory forever. Amen.



When only 5 minutes remain, begin this segment.

FINAL FIVE MINUTES

TREASURE TREAT: Today, your Treasure Treat is an Advent Calendar. Take it home and do the activities with your family each day to get your hearts ready to celebrate Christmas!

W³: Take home today's W³ Journal Entry as your personal devotional study. Keep your journal entries together at home in a notebook or in your Bible. Distribute W³ Journal Entry #48. Complete this at home and let God speak to you through His own words in the Bible!

OFFERING OF ART: Until it is time to be dismissed, make an Offering of Art. For your offering, draw a picture of Gabriel telling Mary that she would be the mother of King Jesus.

PRAYER REQUESTS: As children work on their Offering of Art, ask how you can pray for them this week. Write requests in a prayer notebook.

BIBLE MEMORY VERSE SONG: Play the Unit 10 Bible Memory Verse Song, "King of Kings," in the background as children wait to be dismissed.



If time remains, choose from the connected activities below.

GOT TIME?

SNACK: TASTY TRUMPETS

Purpose: This trumpet-shaped snack reminds children of Gabriel's announcement to Mary.

Snack Suggestion: Any horn or tube-shaped snack

Our snack is in the shape of a trumpet to remind us of the way trumpets are played to introduce important announcements. What announcement did the angel Gabriel bring to Mary? (She would have a baby.) **Why was this baby special?** (Jesus was God's Son. He would be King over all.) **Let's enjoy our trumpet snack and talk about special messages or announcements you have heard.**

Directions:

1. Serve snack and drinks.
2. Child prays to thank God for the snack.
3. Ask the Snack Discussion Question: **"If an angel appeared to you, what would you ask?"**

GAME: PASS THE MESSAGE

Purpose: To remember that we can share the message of the importance of Christ's birth with others.

Supplies: 3 sheets of standard-size paper, pencil

Gabriel gave Mary the message that God was sending His Son to be born as a baby. He said Jesus would be King over a kingdom that would never end. In this game, we will write three messages about the true meaning of Christmas and then see how quickly we can pass those messages to each other.

Directions:

1. **If you could give a message about Christmas what would it be?** (Children respond.)
2. Choose 3 of these messages and write each one on a piece of paper.
3. Fold the papers. Write a number (1, 2, or 3) on each folded paper.
4. Children stand in a circle, all facing the same direction. They should be able to put a hand on the shoulder of the person in front of them. Make the circle large enough that the children can bend down without bumping into the person in front of them.
5. Give 3 children in different parts of the circle the 3 paper messages.
6. On your signal, direct the children to pass the paper as quickly as possible while following your instructions.
7. **Pass the message over your head to the person behind you.** Children continue to pass the paper messages in this way until you change the direction.
8. Change the passing instructions frequently, such as over your left shoulder, between your ankles, under your right arm, etc. You can also change the direction of the message by instructing them to pass the message to the person in front of them.
9. On your signal, the children stop. The child holding message 1 reads the message aloud.
10. Continue passing the 3 messages in different ways.
11. On your signal, the children stop. The child holding message 2 reads the message aloud.
12. Continue passing the 3 messages in different ways.
13. On your signal, the children stop. The child holding message 3 reads the message aloud.

GOT TIME? *continued...*

CRAFT: ANGEL ORNAMENT

Purpose: Children create an angel ornament to remember the message Gabriel gave to Mary.

Supplies: 3 white coffee filters, 1 pompom or 2 cotton balls, 1 gold chenille pipe cleaner, gold glitter paint, optional: substitute gold glitter and glue/glue sticks for the gold glitter paint

Today, we will make an angel ornament to remind you of the message the angel Gabriel brought to Mary. What did Gabriel tell Mary about baby Jesus? (He will be called the Son of God. He will reign as King forever. His kingdom will have no end.)

Directions:

1. Decorate the outer rim of the first coffee filter with glitter paint. Let it dry.
2. Place a pompom or 2 cotton balls in the center of a second coffee filter.
3. Wrap the coffee filter around the pompom or cotton balls.
4. Insert the third coffee filter into the open end of the second coffee filter, tucking it into the head area to give the dress a layered effect.
5. Twist a gold pipe cleaner beneath the wrapped pompom to make the head and body of angel. Be sure the third coffee filter is tied in.
6. Fold the coffee filter with the glitter paint at the center to make wings.
7. Tie the wings to the body using the pipe cleaner.
8. Twist the ends of the pipe cleaner together to create a circle for an ornament hanger.

DISCUSSION: ANNO DOMINI (A.D.)

Purpose: Children learn the connection between the calendar and the reign of Christ.

Supplies: Bible open to Isaiah 9:7.

Teacher Tip: A.D. stands for "Anno Domini," not "After Death." Christ lived from 1-33 A.D. during "the Year of our Lord." Some translations say "our Lord," others say "the Lord."

Read Isaiah 9:7. **Isaiah said the coming King will reign "from that time forward and forever." Those many years of King Jesus' reign are called by the Latin name, "Anno Domini," which means "the Year of our Lord." That's why history timelines use the letters A.D., which stands for "Anno Domini," and B.C., which stands for "Before Christ." Did you know the birth of Jesus marks a change in the calendars of most nations?** (Children respond.) **Even in some places where people don't believe in Jesus, the years are numbered with the letters A.D.**

What is today's official date? (Day/Month/Year, A.D.) **Today, King Jesus is the one in control over every king and ruler on earth, even those who do not follow Him. How can the letters A.D. help us remember that?** (Children respond.)

GOT TIME? *continued...*



BIBLE MEMORY VERSE ACTIVITIES

“The kingdom of the world has become the kingdom of our Lord and of His Christ,
and He will reign for ever and ever.”

“KING OF KINGS AND LORD OF LORDS.” Revelation 11:15b; 19:16b

GAME: CROWN TOSS

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

Supplies: Unit 10 Bible Memory Verse poster, two scepters (stick or tube decorated with foil or paint), two crowns (toy or paper)

Who does the world belong to? (God the Father and Jesus Christ.) **The world belongs to God because He made it. Jesus is our King who will reign forever. He is greater than any other king! Let’s practice our Bible Memory Verse by tossing crowns onto a king’s royal scepter.**

Directions:

1. Form two teams of equal number. Have each team stand in a line.
2. Give a scepter to the first child in each line. Have those two children stand about 10 feet away, facing their team and holding the scepter in front of them.
3. Give a crown to the next child in each line.
4. On your signal, the children in each line toss the crowns, aiming for the team’s scepter.
5. If a child gets the crown onto the scepter, the next child takes his or her turn. If a child misses the scepter, give him or her a second chance. If the child misses it a second time, the team must stop and say the Bible Memory Verse together before the next child’s turn.
6. Once a child has taken a turn, he or she sits behind the team line.
7. The goal is to be the first team to have all their players seated.

GAME: ROYAL MUSICAL CHAIRS

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

Supplies: One chair per child, Unit 10 Bible Memory Verse Song “King of Kings,” CD player

Directions:

1. Children say Unit 10 Bible Memory Verse together. Practice several times.
2. Begin with one less chair than the number of children. Place the chairs in two lines, back to back with the seats facing out. Have the children stand around the chairs.
3. Play the Bible Memory Verse Song as the children walk around the chairs.
4. When you stop the song, each child tries to sit in a seat. One child should be left standing.
5. The child left standing can stay in the game if he or she recites the Bible Memory Verse from memory. (You may choose to help if he or she has just begun to learn the verse.) If the child can not recite the Bible Memory Verse, he or she is out of the game. Remove one chair and play again. If the child can recite the Bible Memory Verse, leave all the chairs and play again.
6. Continue playing several rounds to give more children a chance to say the Bible Memory Verse.
7. For children who are out of the game, give them special responsibilities, such as helping to remove chairs or starting and stopping the music.
8. Give special responsibilities to children who are out of the game, such as helping to remove chairs or starting and stopping the music.

GOT TIME? *continued...*



BIBLE TIMELINE REVIEW

Kings & Kingdoms Part Two studies the miracles and stories of the Bible from Judges through Esther. Review recent Bible stories to see the continuing story of who God is and what He has done.

Nehemiah (Circa 430 B.C.) What did Nehemiah ask King Artaxerxes? (He asked for permission to go rebuild Jerusalem's city wall.) **How did Nehemiah use the families of Jerusalem to rebuild the city wall?** (He gave each family a part of the wall to rebuild.) **What was Nehemiah's plan for defending the families against the enemy as they built the wall?** (He prayed and posted guards. He had the workers carry supplies in one hand and a weapon in the other.)

Esther (Circa 470 B.C.) Who did King Xerxes, the king of Persia, choose as his queen? (Esther.) **What did Mordecai ask Queen Esther to do?** (To ask the king to save God's people.) **How did the king show Queen Esther that it was safe for her to come and talk to him?** (He extended his scepter for her to touch.) **Did the king agree to Queen Esther's request?** (Yes.)

Jesus on Earth (Circa 1–33 A.D.) After the days of Queen Esther had passed, God sent no messages to His people for 400 years. Then, when the time was right, He sent His angel to announce the birth of King Jesus to Mary. What was the name of the angel? (Gabriel.) **Gabriel said Jesus was God's Son. What did He say about His kingdom?** (It will have no end.) **A.D. stands for Anno Domini which means the Year of our Lord. A.D. begins with Jesus' birth and continues until the end of time.**

How to create a Bible Timeline from Judges through Esther:

1. Print each scroll on sturdy paper.
2. Choose a wall or other visible location to display the timeline.
3. Before each lesson, add the scroll for that lesson to the Bible Timeline using the list below. Add the Unit 10 card for Kings & Kingdoms Lessons 48-52.
4. To review, ask the corresponding questions as you point to the associated scroll.

Judges – Esther: Deborah (Circa 1350 B.C.) > Gideon (Circa 1250 B.C.) > Samson (Circa 1150 B.C.) > Ruth > Samuel (Circa 1100 B.C.) > Saul (Circa 1050 B.C.) > David (Circa 1020 B.C.) > Solomon (Circa 970 B.C.) > Josiah (Circa 640 B.C.) > Ezra (Circa 500 B.C.) > Esther (Circa 470 B.C.) > Nehemiah (Circa 430 B.C.)

Unit 10: Jesus on Earth (Circa 2 B.C.-33 A.D.)

Teacher Tip: To view Bible Timeline and lessons from Genesis through Joshua, see Year One, God of Wonders Lessons 22-47.