



# Advent 1: Announcing the King

Lesson Aim: To know God sent His Son as our King.

## THE WORSHIP

**Who God is:** The King Who Came to Us

## THE WORD

**Bible Story:** Luke 1:26-33

**What He has done:** God sent the angel Gabriel to Mary.

## THE WAY

**Whisper Verse:** "Your King is coming."

## BIBLE MEMORY VERSE

"God so loved the world that He gave His one and only Son." John 3:16a

Unit 10: The King Who Came to Us			
	Bible Story	What He Has Done	Lesson Aim
48	Advent 1: Announcing the King, Luke 1:26-33	God sent the angel Gabriel to Mary.	To know God sent His Son as our King.
49	Advent 2: Naming the King, Matthew 1:18, 20-21	God sent the angel to tell Joseph to name the baby Jesus.	To know Jesus is the name of God's Son, our King.
50	Advent 3: Birthplace of the King, Luke 2:1-7	God chose Bethlehem as the birthplace of King Jesus.	To know Jesus was born in a manger in Bethlehem.
51	Advent 4: Worshipping The King, Luke 2:8-20	God led the shepherds to see and worship King Jesus.	To praise God for sending King Jesus to us.
52	Giving to the King: The Wise Men, Matthew 2:1-2, 9-11	God showed baby Jesus to the wise men.	To explore ways to give our treasures to Jesus.

## TEACHER'S ENCOURAGEMENT

This week, read Lamentations 3:24-29. Please join us in praying, "Thank you, Lord, for the good news You bring us. Provide us with the quiet moments we need in order to prepare our hearts to worship You this Christmas. 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.



Segment	Minutes	Activity	Supplies
THE WELCOME	Up to 15	Treasure Chest	Treasure chest, stamp or sticker of an angel
		Whisper Verse	Sign language for "Your King is coming."
THE WORSHIP	Up to 20	<b>Worship</b> Sheet music and recordings for Bible Memory Verse Songs available at ResourceWell.org.	Advent wreath (See GOT TIME?) <b>Unit 10 Bible Memory Verse Song:</b> "His One and Only Son" <b>Other Bible Memory Verse Song Suggestions:</b> "It's Praise Time" "I Bring You Good News" "Give Thanks to the Lord" <b>Additional Hymn Suggestions:</b> "Away in a Manger," "Go Tell It On the Mountain," "O Come, All Ye Faithful," "What Can I Give Him" <b>Additional Song Collection Suggestions:</b> Countdown Kids: 60 Christmas Carols For Kids! Great Christmas Songs For God's Kids
		Offering	Baskets
		Worship Illustration	<i>The Adventures of Delbert and Lello</i> puppet script or storybook: Kings & Kingdoms Unit 10, Lesson 48
THE WORD	Up to 10	Watch the Word: Luke 1:26-33	Teacher's Bible with bookmark at Luke 1:26 Visual: Megaphone or an angel ornament
THE WAY	Up to 25	Craft: Royal Trumpet	Paper cup, white or yellow sturdy paper, tape, crayons or markers, assorted craft decorations, optional: yarn or string, hole punch
		Game: Your King Is Coming!	"Royal Trumpet" crafts
		Game: Crown Gift	Wrapped box with removable lid, toy or paper crown, Unit 10 Bible Memory Verse Song "His One and Only Son," CD player
		Snack: Tasty Trumpets	Horn or tube-shaped snack
		Circle of Prayer	None
	Final 5	Final Five	Ponder, Pray & Play: Unit 10, Lesson 48 Color This Story: "Gabriel Tells Mary the Good News"
GOT TIME?	Up to 10	Say & Do: Luke 1:26-33	None
	Up to 10	Game: Hop Around the World	Globe or picture of the world
	Up to 10	Game: Poster Pictogram	Five large sheets of paper, crayons or markers
		Craft: Advent Crown Wreath	See GOT TIME?
	Up to 10	Story Time	Any story about the events surrounding Jesus' birth

**RESOURCES:** Supplemental materials are available at ResourceWell.org.



## Your King is coming **THE WELCOME**

Welcome each child as they arrive. **Hello \_\_\_\_\_. I'm glad you are here! Come open the Treasure Chest to find today's treasure.** Child unlocks the Treasure Chest to receive a stamp or sticker of an angel. **Let this sticker of an angel remind you of the angel who told Mary that King Jesus was coming. Jesus is our King, too. Today's Whisper Verse is "Your King is coming."** 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: "Your King is coming."**

(For visual demonstrations, see [www.signingsavvy.com](http://www.signingsavvy.com).)

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

- "Your"** The right hand is pushed forward from the body with fingers together and palm facing out.
- "King (is)"** Place the thumb between the pointer and index fingers of right hand to create the letter "K" hand shape. Bring the letter "k" shape diagonal across chest from the left shoulder to the right hip as a royal sash.
- "coming."** Point both index fingers out and move hands toward self.

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:** "Your King is coming," John 12:15. 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 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 “It’s Praise Time!” as children move to that designated area.

**It’s Praise Time—our time to sing praise to the King who came to us. He knew we couldn’t get to heaven on our own, so He came to us. The angel Gabriel told Mary that King Jesus was coming soon. That sounds like today’s Whisper Verse: “Your King is coming!” Let’s try it together now.** Review the Whisper Verse together: “Your King is coming.” Include sign language.



**Let’s give our offering to King Jesus and celebrate the day He came to us.** Play: “I Bring You Good News” as background music while collecting the offering.



### **The Lighting of the Christmas Candles: Mary’s Candle**

Advent Wreath: 4 candles set in a wreath

**We light the Christmas candles to get our hearts ready to celebrate Christmas. Today, we light Mary’s Candle to remember that God sent the angel Gabriel to Mary. Gabriel told Mary that she would get to be King Jesus’ mother.** Choose one child to assist in lighting the first of the four purple candles on the Advent Wreath.



**Let’s see if our friend Delbert has heard the good news Mary heard from the angel Gabriel.** Perform *The Adventures of Delbert and Lello* puppet script or read storybook: Kings & Kingdoms Unit 10, Lesson 48.



**God sends you and me to tell everyone His good news. The good news is God loved us so much, He sent His one and only Son, King Jesus, to us!** Sing: “His One and Only Son” and “Go Tell It On the Mountain.”



Gabriel and Mary

## THE WORD

Before we begin our Bible Time, let's say our Classroom Promise with the motions.

With my eyes on my teacher;

My mouth quiet as can be,

I will listen to hear,

How God loves you and me.

Point to eyes.

Place index finger over mouth as quiet sign.

Cup hand around ear.

Hug self, point to others, and then self.

Last time, we learned God helped Esther be brave. Today, we will hear how God sent an angel named Gabriel to tell Mary the good news about King Jesus. Handle the Bible as a special treasure, leaving it open to Luke 1:26.

### **WATCH THE WORD: LUKE 1:26-33**

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 megaphone or an angel ornament. Other visual options include the craft sample, Color This Story, or any related picture.

- Gabriel the angel came to Mary one day.
- Mary wondered what he might say.
- Gabriel said, "Do not be afraid,
- God sent me to tell you good news today."
  
- "The Lord is very pleased with you.
- He will give you His Son; here's what to do.
- Name Him Jesus when He is born.
- He's the King who is coming to rule forevermore."



**Who sent Gabriel to tell Mary the good news? (God.) Let's find our answer in the Bible.**

Read Luke 1:26 from the teacher's Bible.

**Who did Gabriel say was coming to be Mary's baby? (Jesus.) God sent His Son, Jesus, as our King! Let's say our Whisper Verse together: "Your King is coming." Include sign language or hand motions.**



Tell others the good news

## THE WAY

**Teacher Tip:** Craft and games can be presented at the same time in different areas or one at a time depending on class size and teaching style.

### **CRAFT: ROYAL TRUMPET**

**Purpose:** To remind the children that Gabriel told Mary the good news.

**Supplies:** Paper cup, white or yellow sturdy paper, tape, crayons or markers, assorted craft decorations (e.g., feathers, jewels, felt or foam shapes, etc.), optional: yarn or string, hole punch

**Prepare:** Cut out the bottom of a paper cup. From white or yellow sturdy paper, draw and cut out an angel and a crown small enough to tape to the sides of the cup. On the crown, print the Unit 10 Bible Memory Verse: **"God so loved the world that He gave His one and only Son." John 3:16a.**

**Optional:** To make a hanging ornament, cut a 7-inch length of yarn. Punch a hole near the edge of the cup. Thread the yarn through the hole and tie a knot to create a loop.

#### **Directions:**

1. Color and decorate the angel and crown.
2. Optional: Color the cup.
3. Tape the crown on one side of the cup and the angel on the other side.
4. Show the children how to use the cup as a trumpet. Practice saying the Bible Memory Verse or the Whisper Verse with their "Royal Trumpets."

#### **Craft Discussion:**

- **Who sent the angel to tell Mary the good news?** (God.)
- **What was the angel's name?** (Gabriel.)
- **Often when a king is coming, a trumpet sounds so everyone pays attention. You can use your royal trumpet to announce the coming of Jesus, our King. Let's announce His coming with our Whisper Verse.** Lead the children in saying the Whisper Verse with their "Royal Trumpets."
- **Gabriel did not need a trumpet! Everyone paid attention when they saw an angel!**
- **Who did Gabriel say would be born?** (Jesus, God's Son.) **Who would be His mother?** (Mary.)
- **When do we celebrate King Jesus' birthday?** (Christmas.)
- **Gabriel told Mary that she would be the mother of Jesus, the coming King. Let's say our Whisper Verse with our motions right now!** Say the Whisper Verse together with hand motions.
- **Who is our King?** (Jesus.)

# THE WAY *continued...*

## **GAME: YOUR KING IS COMING!**

**Purpose:** Children will use their "Royal Trumpets" to practice telling others that Jesus is coming.

**Supplies:** "Royal Trumpet" crafts

**Who is our King?** (Jesus.) **The angel Gabriel told Mary that Jesus would be born. She would be His mother. Let's get ready to tell other people that King Jesus is coming! Let's say and sign our Whisper Verse together.** Children say and sign, **"Your King is coming."** Now, let's use our royal trumpets to tell everyone the good news.

### **Directions:**

1. Children sit in a circle on the floor.
2. Children hold their Royal Trumpets to their mouths.
3. Lead children in saying the Whisper Verse, **"Your King is coming,"** in various ways. For example: whisper it, shout it, sing it, sign it, etc.
4. **What is your favorite way to say the Whisper Verse?** Go around the circle and let each child announce the Whisper Verse through their Royal Trumpet in his or her favorite way.

## **GAME: CROWN GIFT**

**Purpose:** Children pass a gift box with a crown inside to help them remember Jesus is their King.

**Supplies:** Wrapped box with a removable lid, toy or paper crown, Unit 10 Bible Memory Verse Song, CD player

**God sent His Son, Jesus, as our King. The angel told Mary that she would be the mother of King Jesus. When do we celebrate Jesus' birthday?** (Christmas.) **King Jesus is God's Christmas present to the whole world!** (Hold up wrapped box with crown inside.) **Let's play a game to see what's inside this gift!**

### **Directions:**

1. Children sit in a circle on the floor.
2. Teacher plays the Bible Memory Verse Song or sings as children pass the gift around the circle.
3. Stop the music.
4. The child holding the box when the music stops opens it to find the crown.
5. Child says, **"God gave us King Jesus!"**
6. Children say and sign: **"Your King is coming."**
7. Play several times.

# THE WAY *continued...*

## **SNACK: TASTY TRUMPETS**

**Purpose:** Children enjoy a horn-shaped snack to remind them to announce the news of Jesus' birth.

**Snack Suggestion:** Horn or tube-shaped snack

### **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 told Mary that baby Jesus would be born?** (The angel Gabriel.)
  - **Who did Gabriel say would be our King?** (Jesus, God's Son.)
  - **Let's say our Whisper Verse as if we are Gabriel telling Mary the good news.** Lead children in announcing **"Your King is coming"** by speaking through their horn-shaped snacks.
  - **Christmas is the time we celebrate the birthday of King Jesus. Who will you tell about King Jesus?** (Children respond.)



## **CIRCLE OF PRAYER**

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 each name). We pray for our families and friends. Thank You for teaching us how to love one another. Amen.



When only 5 minutes remain, begin this segment.

## **FINAL FIVE MINUTES**

**COMPLETED CRAFT:** Take home your "Royal Trumpet" craft. Tell someone the angel Gabriel came to tell Mary that King Jesus would be born!

**PONDER, PRAY & PLAY:** Distribute Ponder, Pray & Play cards, if available. **Show this card to your family. Talk about the good news that God sent His Son, Jesus, as our King!**

**COLOR THIS STORY:** "Gabriel Tells Mary the Good News." Discuss the Bible story and play Unit 10 Bible Memory Verse Song, "His One and Only Son," as children color.





If time remains, choose from the connected activities below.

## GOT TIME?

### **SAY & DO: LUKE 1:26-33**

**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.

- **Gabriel the angel came to Mary one day.** (Stand with fists on hips as a bold angel.)
- **Mary wondered what he might say.** (Hands on cheeks as if afraid.)
- **Gabriel said, "Do not be afraid,** (Clasp hands gently.)
- **God sent me to tell you good news today.** (Point to heaven.)
  
- **"The Lord is very pleased with you.** (Thumbs up as sign of approval.)
- **He will give you His Son; here's what to do.** (Rock baby in arms.)
- **Name Him Jesus when He is born.** (Point as if teaching.)
- **He's the King who is coming to rule forevermore."** (Whisper Verse motions.)

### **CRAFT: ADVENT CROWN WREATH**

**Purpose:** Children work together to create an Advent crown wreath.

**Supplies:** Poster board or sturdy paper, craft jewels or costume jewelry, gold paint (or gold foil, gold wrapping paper, etc.), four tall gold candles, four candleholders, one gold dinner plate or plate wrapped in gold foil or paper, stapler, glue

**Prepare:** Cut a 3-inch x 24-inch strip of poster board. Paint the poster board strip gold. Let it dry. Staple the ends to create a circle (crown) shape.

**Teacher Tip:** Create one wreath for the classroom or individual wreaths for children to take home. The directions for this wreath suggest four candles. Some wreaths add a fifth candle, "the Christ Candle" which is in the center of the wreath and lit on Christmas Eve or Christmas Day.

**Advent means coming. In the four weeks before Christmas, believers use an Advent wreath to celebrate the coming of King Jesus. Each week we light a new candle. Our Advent wreath is in the shape of a crown to remind us Jesus is the King of kings. The circle shape of the crown which has no beginning and no end reminds us of the promise of a never ending life forever with God.**

#### **Directions:**

1. Decorate the circle (crown) with craft jewels or costume jewelry.
2. Place the crown on a gold dinner plate or plate wrapped in gold foil or paper.
3. Place the four gold candles in holders evenly along the inner rim of crown.

**Optional Flameless Advent Crown Wreaths:** (1) Cut candle shapes from sturdy gold or yellow paper. Color the flames red or orange. Attach the candles to the crown with tape. (2) Use battery operated candles.

# GOT TIME? *continued...*



## BIBLE MEMORY VERSE ACTIVITIES

"God so loved the world that He gave His one and only Son." John 3:16a

### **GAME: HOP AROUND THE WORLD**

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

**Supplies:** Globe or picture of the world

Our Bible Memory Verse says, "God so loved the world that He gave His one and only Son." Who is God's one and only Son? (King Jesus.) God loves everyone in the world very much! That's why He gave King Jesus to everyone! Let's hop around the world as we say our Bible Memory Verse.

#### **Directions:**

1. Place the globe or picture of the world in the center of the play area.
2. Have children stand in a circle around the world, then turn to face in one direction.
3. Say the Bible Memory Verse. On each word, children hop one time in the same direction.
4. Continue hopping around the world until you finish the Bible Memory Verse.
5. Have children turn around to play again, hopping on the other foot in the opposite direction.

### **GAME: POSTER PICTOGRAM**

**Purpose:** Children will learn and understand the meaning of the Unit 10 Bible Memory Verse.

**Supplies:** Five large sheets of paper, crayons or markers

**Prepare:** Draw each one of the following symbols below on a separate sheet of paper.

- Cross (God)
- Heart (so loved)
- Globe (the world)
- Gift (that He gave)
- Baby in manger (His one and only Son.)

**Optional:** Each week of this unit, let the children decorate one of the posters.

#### **Directions:**

1. Mix the order of the symbols. Choose five children and give one symbol to each child.
2. **These pictures will help us learn our Bible Memory Verse. Let's put them in order. The first word in our Bible Memory Verse is "God." Which picture goes with the word "God"? (Cross.) Which picture goes with the word "loved"? (Heart.) Which picture goes with "world"? (Globe.) Which picture goes with the word "gave"? (Gift.) Which picture goes with the words "His one and only Son"? (Baby in manger.)**
3. Use the symbols to repeat the Bible Memory Verse together.

# GOT TIME? *continued...*



## 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 the events surrounding Jesus' birth.

### **PONDER, PRAY & PLAY**

Unit 10, Lesson 48 - Advent 1: Announcing the King

**PONDER!** To create an Advent Crown Wreath, use gold foil to make a crown. Place four candles in holders around the inner rim of the crown. Place a fifth candle as the "Christ Candle" in a holder in the center of the crown. Gather your family to light the first candle: "Mary's Candle." Read Luke 1:28-33 and imagine how Mary felt when she heard the good news from Gabriel.

**PRAY!** Pray this prayer each day this week: "Lord, thank You for sending Your Son, Jesus to be born. Thank You that Jesus is our King. Amen."

**PLAY!** Announce the King! Help your family tell each other about baby Jesus. Hold your Royal Trumpet craft up to your mouth. Say the Whisper Verse, "Your King is coming," through your trumpet. Ask your family to whisper it after you. Then show them how to shout it, sing it, and sign it.

**Unit 10 Bible Memory Verse:** John 3:16a

"God so loved the world that He gave His one and only Son."