



# Advent 2: God's Promise to Mary

Lesson Aim: To know Jesus is the Son of God.

## 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."

## BIBLE MEMORY VERSE

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

Unit 10: The Promised One			
	Bible Story	What He Has Done	Lesson Aim
48	Advent 1: Isaiah Tells of the Promised Child, Isaiah 9:2-3, 6	God told Isaiah the promise of the coming child.	To know God promised to send His Son to us.
49	Advent 2: God's Promise to Mary, Luke 1:26-38	God promised Mary that she would give birth to His Son, Jesus.	To know Jesus is the Son of God.
50	Advent 3: The Promised Son Is Born, Luke 2:4-7	God fulfilled His promise for Jesus to be born in Bethlehem.	To know God keeps His promises.
51	Advent 4: Shepherds See God's Promised Son, Luke 2:8-20	God sent the angels to tell the shepherds about Jesus, the promised Savior.	To praise God as the shepherds did when they saw baby Jesus.
52	Wise Men Knew God's Promise, Matthew 2:1-2, 9-11	God sent the Wise Men to Bethlehem where they saw God's promises fulfilled.	To know promises from God are found in the Bible.

## TEACHER'S ENCOURAGEMENT

This week, read Luke 1:46-56. Please join us in praying, "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."

**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	<b>Treasure Chest</b>	Treasure chest, stamp or sticker of an angel
		<b>Whisper Verse</b>	Sign language for "Jesus is the Son of God."
THE WORSHIP	Up to 20	<b>Worship</b> Sheet music and recordings for Bible Memory Verse Songs available at ResourceWell.org.  <b>Additional Supplies:</b> Advent wreath (See GOT TIME?)	<b>Unit 10 Bible Memory Verse Song:</b> "Give Thanks to the Lord" <b>Other Bible Memory Verse Song Suggestions:</b> "His One and Only Son" "I Bring You Good News" "I Am with You" "Let Everything That Has Breath" "Praise Time: Love the Lord Your God" "The Lord Is Faithful" <b>Additional Hymn Suggestions:</b> "Away in a Manger"
		<b>Offering</b>	Baskets
		<b>Worship Illustration</b>	<i>The Adventures of Delbert and Lello</i> puppet script or storybook: Prophets & Promises Unit 10, Lesson 49
THE WORD	Up to 10	<b>Watch the Word:</b> Luke 1:26-38	Teacher's Bible with bookmark at Luke 1:31 Visual: "Angel Gabriel" craft sample
THE WAY	Up to 25	<b>Craft:</b> "Angel Gabriel"	Small paper cup (uncoated), craft stick, sturdy white and yellow paper, 4-inch white doily, tape or glue, pen or marker, sticker or label, optional: silver, gold, or white glitter
		<b>Game:</b> Deliver the Message	Picture of Mary
		<b>Game:</b> Family Pictures	Sturdy paper, crayons
		<b>Snack:</b> Angel Cake	Angel food cake (or similar white fluffy snack)
	<b>Circle of Prayer</b>	None	
	Final 5	<b>Final Five</b>	Ponder, Pray & Play: Unit 10, Lesson 49 Color This Story: "The Angel Tells Mary About God's Promise"
GOT TIME?	Up to 10	<b>Say &amp; Do:</b> Luke 1:26-38	None
	Up to 10	<b>Game:</b> Pass the Gift	Wrapped gift box (with removable lid), baby Jesus (doll or "Baby Jesus" craft sample), Unit 10 Bible Memory Verse Song "Give Thanks to the Lord"
	Up to 10	<b>Game:</b> Shout It Out	Unit 10 Bible Memory Verse Song "Give Thanks to the Lord"
	Up to 15	<b>Craft:</b> Advent Crown Wreath	See GOT TIME?
	Up to 10	<b>Story Time</b>	Any story about events surrounding Jesus' birth

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



## Jesus is the Son of God

# 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 stamp (or sticker) of an angel help you remember the angel promised Mary that she would have a baby named Jesus and He would be the Son of God. Today's Whisper Verse is "Jesus is the Son of God."** 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: "Jesus is the Son of God."**

(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:**

- "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 a 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.

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:** "Jesus is the Son of God," 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.



The God of Peace

## 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 “Praise Time: Love the Lord Your God” as children move to that designated area.

**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. What is 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.



**Let's thank God for giving us His Son Jesus as we give our offering.** Sing the Unit 10 Bible Memory Verse Song “Give Thanks to the Lord” while collecting the offering.



### The Lighting of the Christmas Candles: The Angel 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 the Angel Candle to remember God sent the angel Gabriel with His promise for Mary.** Choose a child to assist in lighting the first two of the four purple candles on the Advent Wreath.

**Mary was afraid when the angel Gabriel appeared, but he 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.”



**Let's see if our friends Delbert and Lello know about the day the angel Gabriel visited Mary.** Perform The Adventures of Delbert and Lello puppet script or read storybook: Prophets & Promises Unit 10, Lesson 49.



**God promised His Son Jesus would be born to Mary. Do you know if God kept that promise? (Yes, He did.) Let's sing about the day Jesus was born, the day 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.



A promise for Mary

## THE WORD

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

**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.

Last time, we learned God gave Isaiah the message that He promised to send a special baby. Today, we will hear how God promised Mary she would be that special baby's mother.

Handle the Bible as a special treasure, leaving it open to Luke 1:31.

### **WATCH THE WORD: LUKE 1:26-38**

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 the "Angel Gabriel" craft sample. Other visual options include Color This Story or any related picture.

- **The angel Gabriel came to Mary,**
- **And said, "Do not be afraid,**
- **For the Lord is pleased with you!**
- **Here is the promise 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!"**



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

**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.



Jesus is the Son of God

## 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: ANGEL GABRIEL**

**Purpose:** To remind the children of God's promise to Mary that she would give birth to His Son Jesus.

**Supplies:** Small paper cup (uncoated), craft stick, sturdy white and yellow paper, 4-inch white doily, tape or glue, pen or marker, sticker or label, optional: silver, gold, or white glitter

**Prepare:** From sturdy white paper, cut a 2-inch circle. From sturdy yellow paper, cut a 4-inch triangle. Cut a slit in the bottom of the cup large enough for the craft stick to fit through it. On the sticker, print:

**The Angel Gabriel Appeared to Mary. Luke 1:26-38**

**Teacher Tip #1:** This craft is the second in a set of five crafts appearing in Lessons 48-52. Together, they will create a Nativity scene for each child. Remind the children to keep their crafts in a special place. In the coming weeks, they will add other people from Christmas story.

**Teacher Tip #2:** According to the Bible, the angel Gabriel is male. He appeared to Daniel in the form of a man and hundreds of years later to Mary in the form of a male angel. Knowing Gabriel's gender may help the children as they create this craft.

#### **Directions:**

1. Glue the white circle (angel's head) to the top of the yellow triangle (angel's body).
2. Draw angel Gabriel's face and hair on the white circle. (See Teacher Tip #2 above.)
3. Glue the angel's back to the center of the doily for a halo of light or wings.
4. Optional: Decorate the angel with silver, gold, or white glitter.
5. Glue the angel figure to the top half of the craft stick.
6. Attach the label on the upside-down cup.
7. Insert the craft stick in the slit so the Angel Gabriel stands up.

#### **Craft Discussion:**

- **Who sent the angel?** (God.)
- **What was his name?** (Gabriel.)
- **Who did the angel visit?** (Mary.)
- **The angel Gabriel promised Mary she 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 the Whisper Verse together with the hand motions.
- **God's Son Jesus is very special. God promised Jesus would be King over all of the earth forever.**

# THE WAY *continued...*

## **GAME: DELIVER THE MESSAGE**

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

**Supplies:** Picture of Mary

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

**God gave a promise to Mary. He promised she would 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 end of the play area.
2. Stand on the opposite end of the play area, holding the picture of Mary in front of you so the children can’t see the picture.
3. On your signal, the children pretend to be the angel Gabriel and move toward the teacher.
  - When you raise the picture so the children can see Mary, the children must all stop and say and sign the Whisper Verse.
  - When you lower the picture so the children can’t see Mary, the children may move forward again.
4. Repeat step 3 until all the children reach you.
5. Play as often as you like.

## **GAME: FAMILY PICTURES**

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

**Supplies:** Sturdy paper, crayons

**Prepare:** Draw the shape of a picture frame on a sheet of sturdy paper for each child.

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

**In Jesus’ family, God was His true Father who lived in heaven. Mary and Joseph cared for Jesus and were His parents on earth. God gives you a family, too. Some families are large and some are small. Each family is special to God. God chooses a parent or someone to care for each one of us. Draw a picture of yourself with the person or people who care for you.**

### **Directions:**

1. Inside the picture frame, each child draws a self-portrait with one or more parental figures, caregivers, or family members.
2. Children take turns showing their pictures to each another.
3. **Who is God’s Son?** (Jesus.)
4. Children say and sign, **“Jesus is the Son of God.”**
5. **Who did God promise would be the mother of God’s Son?** (Mary.)

# THE WAY *continued...*

## **SNACK: ANGEL CAKE**

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

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

**Let's eat some angel food cake. How does this fluffy white cake remind you of an angel?**  
(Children respond.)

### **Directions:**

1. Serve the 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 gave God's promise to Mary?** (The angel Gabriel.) **God promised Mary would give birth to His Son Jesus.**
  - **Who remembers our Whisper Verse?** Choose a child to demonstrate the motions to the Whisper Verse: "Jesus is the Son of God."
  - **Jesus was a very special baby because He is God's Son.**
  - **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.**



## **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 "Angel Gabriel" craft. Tell someone the angel Gabriel told Mary about God's promise that she would have a special baby.

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

**COLOR THIS STORY:** "The Angel Tells Mary About God's Promise." Discuss the Bible story and play the Unit 10 Bible Memory Verse Song, "Give Thanks to the Lord," as the children color.





If time remains, choose from the connected activities below.

## GOT TIME?

### **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 is 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 sign language.)
- **He'll be King forevermore!"** (Pretend to place crown on head.)



### **BIBLE MEMORY VERSE ACTIVITIES**

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

### **GAME: SHOUT IT OUT**

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

**Supplies:** Unit 10 Bible Memory Verse Song "Give Thanks to the Lord"

**Our Bible Memory Verse tells us God is good. He is always good to you and me!**

**Directions:**

1. Divide the children into two groups. Groups sit on opposite sides of the play area.
2. Teach one group the first part of the verse: **"Give thanks to the Lord..."** Teach the other group the second part: **"...for He is good."**
3. Tell the children one way God has been good to you. Point to each group in order and lead them in jumping up and shouting their part of the verse.
4. Choose a child to stand and share one way God has been good to him or her. The child points to each group to stand and say their part of the verse.
5. Play until each child has a turn.
6. Finish by singing the Bible Memory Verse Song. Challenge children to sing it as loud as they can.

# GOT TIME? *continued...*

## **GAME: PASS THE GIFT**

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

**Supplies:** Wrapped gift box (with removable lid), baby Jesus doll, Unit 10 Bible Memory Verse Song "Give Thanks to the Lord"

**Prepare:** Place baby Jesus inside the box and close the box lid.

**God gives you lots of gifts. One of the things He gives you is 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 for the gifts and the people He has given us. It says, "Give thanks to the Lord, for He is good."**

### **Directions:**

1. Children sit in a circle. Give the gift box to one of the children.
2. **What is one thing you thank God for?** (Child responds.)
3. Lead all the children in saying, **"Thank you, God!"**
4. Children pass the gift around the circle. While each child holds the gift, repeat steps 2-3.
5. **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.

## **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 Jesus. Each week we light a new candle. Our Advent wreath is in round; it has no beginning and no end. This reminds us of the promise of a never ending life forever with God.**

### **Directions:**

1. Decorate the circle 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...*



## 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 events surrounding Jesus' birth.

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

Unit 10, Lesson 49—Advent 2: 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 to stand for the four Sundays before Christmas. 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 her?

**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. Take turns sharing something special about the person in the picture you are each holding.

#### **Unit 10 Bible Memory Verse:**

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