

At-A-Glance: Ages 10-12 Prophets & Promises: Advent of the Promised One Unit 10, Lesson 51

Advent 4: Shepherds See the Promised One

Lesson Aim: To understand believers have the promised peace through faith in Jesus.

THE WELCOME

MEET & GREET: What is your favorite Christmas hymn or praise song?

GAME: Spread the News

THE WORSHIP THE GOD OF PEACE

Advent Candle Lighting Ceremony: The Peace Candle

Read Worship Scripture: Luke 2:11-14.

Sing songs and worship God. Bless and collect the offering.

Perform The Love Sub script or read storybook.

THE WORD THE HEAVENLY HOST PROCLAIMS PEACE

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

Review: God sent John the Baptist to point others to the promised Savior.

Today, we will hear how an angel made a special announcement to shepherds. Who knows what the shepherds heard and saw? Point to The Birth of Jesus (Circa 1 A.D.). Point to Bethlehem. Who knows the story? Listen for something new. Reveal Bible Story Scripture Reference: Luke 2:4-18; Hebrews 11:6; John 14:27. Find and Highlight Key Verse First: Luke 2:14. Pray. Read Luke 2:4-18; Hebrews 11:6; John 14:27.

THE WAY BEING AT PEACE WITH GOD

What did the heavenly host say? ("Glory to God in the highest heaven, and on earth peace to men on whom His favor rests.") They spoke about peace on earth for a certain group of people: all those on whom God's favor rests. What do you think it means to have God's favor rest on you? (God is pleased with you.) What is the key we need to completely please God? (Faith.) God is fully pleased with anyone from any family, race, or nation who believes in His Son Jesus.

Peace means there is no fighting or disagreements. What kind of peace do you think Jesus brings? Jesus brings three kinds of peace.

- Upward Peace: Jesus brings peace between God and us. What
 does it mean to have peace between God and us? When we sin,
 we do wrong in God's eyes; we are fighting against doing things
 His way. When we believe in His Son, our sins are forgiven and
 God is pleased with us. This is the most important kind of peace.
- Inward Peace: Jesus brings us inner peace. He gives our minds the peace that comes from knowing God loves and forgives us.
- Outward Peace: Jesus brings peace among all who believe in Him. The Apostle Paul explained there can be peace between Jews and Gentiles because Jesus has united all who believe. That is true today; all who believe in Jesus are united.

Jesus did not come to bring all wars to an immediate end but to bring an everlasting peace. Why do you think the heavenly host celebrated this peace? If you want to be at peace with God, you can ask Him to give you the faith to believe in His Son Jesus as your Savior and Lord. Watch for the unique ways God shows Himself to you to give you that faith and peace with Him. How can you help others find peace with God and with one another?

How does the Bible say the people reacted when they heard the news from the shepherds? (They were amazed.) How can you be like the shepherds? (Tell others about Jesus.) How would you explain the peace God gives to all who believe in Jesus? Read Ephesians 2:12-14.

CHRIST CONNECTION:

700 years earlier, Micah spoke of peace. Let's see how many prophecies about Jesus we find in his words. Reveal Micah 5:2-5a. Find It First. Highlight. Read. Micah points to Jesus as our peace. Only Jesus can give our hearts true, everlasting peace. If you have inner peace with God, how does it affect your choices and relationships?

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

FINAL FIVE MINUTES:

- TREASURE TREAT: Peace on Earth ornament (or magnet)
- W³ BETWEEN THE LINES Journal Entry #51
- OFFERING OF ART: Heavenly host praising God saying, "Peace on earth!"
- PRAYER REQUESTS
- BIBLE MEMORY VERSE SONG

GOT TIME?

SNACK: Christmas Cupcakes **GAME:** Share the Story

CRAFT: Peace on Earth Wreath

BIBLE MEMORY VERSE ACTIVITIES: Appearing Angel, Toss-A-Verse

BIBLE TIMELINE REVIEW