



At-A-Glance: Ages 8-9
Prophets & Promises:
Advent of the Promised One
Unit 10, Lesson 51

Advent 4: Shepherds See the Promised One

Lesson Aim: To know Jesus brought peace
just as God promised.

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 what happened when 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.). **Jesus was born in Bethlehem.** Point to Bethlehem. **Who already knows the story of Jesus' birth? Listen to see if you learn something new.** Reveal Bible Story Scripture Reference: Luke 2:4-18; John 14:27. Find and Highlight Key Verse First: Luke 2:14. Pray. Read Luke 2:4-18; John 14:27.

THE WAY JESUS BRINGS PEACE

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 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.)

God loves to see us obey rules, do good deeds, and love one another. But, we cannot completely please Him by doing those things. Hebrews 11:6 tells us, "without faith it is impossible to

please God." 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. It is different than the kind of peace the world gives.
- **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 now be peace between Jews and Gentiles because Jesus has united all who believe in Him. That same explanation 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. How can you help others find peace with God and with one another? How did people react when they heard the shepherds' news? (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?**

CHRIST CONNECTION:

700 years earlier, Micah spoke of peace. Let's see how many prophecies about Jesus we can 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.**

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

FINAL FIVE MINUTES:

- **TREASURE TREAT:** Peace on Earth ornament (or magnet)
- **DAILY WAY CHALLENGE**
- **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