



REFERENCES: MATTHEW 1:18-25; LUKE 1:26-38; 2:8-14; *THE DESIRE OF AGES*, PP. 43-48.

God's Messengers

Do you like to hear good news? A long time ago angels brought good news to some special people.

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he angel Gabriel knew exactly where he was going—to a little town called Nazareth. He knew exactly whom

he would talk to there—a special woman named Mary. And he knew exactly what God had told him to say.



“Mary.” Gabriel spoke softly. “Don’t be afraid. God is pleased with you. The Lord has blessed you and is with you,” he said.

Mary was very, very surprised! And very, very confused!

Mary listened carefully to everything the beautiful angel Gabriel told her.

“You will have a baby,” Gabriel said. “You will name Him Jesus. He is the Son of God.”

Memory Verse

“The angels . . . serve God and are sent to help.”

HEBREWS 1:14, ICB.

The Message

God sends angels to help us.

After Gabriel finished explaining things, Mary said, "Let it be as you have said."

About this same time, God sent a message to Joseph. A glorious angel of the Lord appeared to him in a dream.

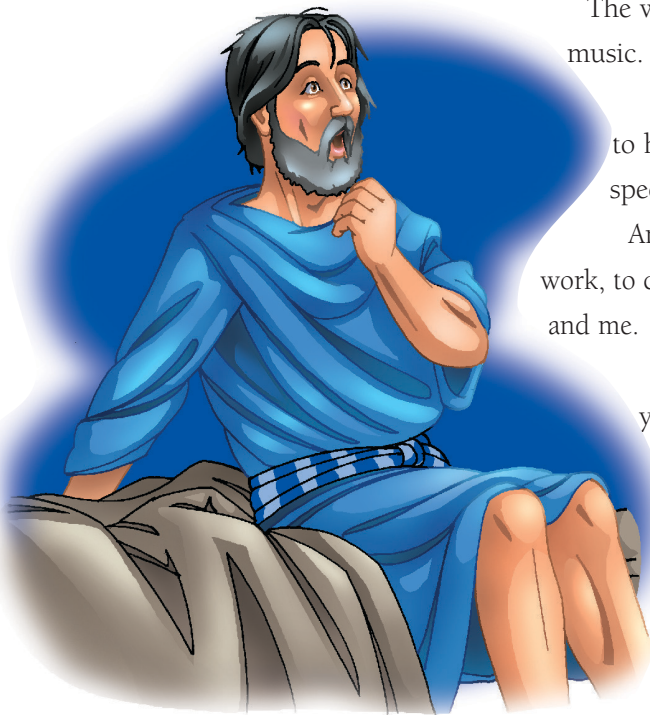
"Take Mary for your wife," the angel said. "She will have a son, and you will name the baby Jesus. He will save His people from their sins."

Joseph woke up. *An angel!* Joseph thought. *God sent an angel to me! An angel!*

After Baby Jesus was born, God sent another angel to shepherds who were quietly guarding their sleeping sheep.

The brilliant light of the angel suddenly shone upon them. The shepherds were scared! "Don't be afraid!" the angel said. "I am bringing you good news! Your Saviour was born today in Bethlehem!"

Then all the angels burst into song. "Give glory to God in heaven!" they sang mightily. "And on earth let there be peace!"



The whole sky was filled with beautiful music.

Soon the angel choir sped back to heaven. What would be the next special work God had for them?

Angels are always ready to do God's work, to carry messages, and to watch over you and me.

God has given you a special angel, your guardian angel, to watch over you all the time. Wherever you go, whatever you do, your angel is with you. Isn't God good?

Do and Say

SABBATH

Each day this week, read the lesson story and review the memory verse:

The angels Flap arms gently as if wings.

serve God. Point upward.

and are sent Right hand above eyes; look up from right to left.

to help. Left fist under back of right hand; push upward to chest.

Hebrews 1:14. . . Palms together, then open.

SUNDAY

Encourage your child to use the angel stick they made in Sabbath School to share the good news about Jesus and the angels with a friend. (Or draw a picture of an angel, and let them color it. Then cut it out, and glue it on a stick.)



MONDAY

Read together Matthew 1:18–25; Luke 1:26–38; 2:8–14. Ask: Whom did the angels visit? What messages did they share? How did the people in our story feel when they saw an angel? (scared, surprised) What special job does your guardian angel do?

TUESDAY

Have your child jump for every Bible angel story they think of. Help your child make a list and count them.

Sing about angels; then thank Jesus for them.

WEDNESDAY

Help your child make a megaphone by rolling a letter-sized sheet of paper into a cone shape and taping or stapling it together. Ask: When you have good news, do you want to whisper or shout it? Let your child march around with their megaphone, shouting “Jesus loves me!”



THURSDAY

Ask your child: What did the angels tell Joseph and Mary to name their baby? (Jesus) The name *Jesus* means one who saves people from their sins. Tell your child why you chose their name and what it means (if you don't know, look it up on the Internet or in a book).

FRIDAY

Act out the story of the angels coming to Mary, Joseph, and the shepherds. Let your child shine a flashlight on the person playing the angel (it could be themselves). When the angels sing after visiting the shepherds, listen to or sing a Christmas carol such as “Hark! the Herald Angels Sing.”

Talk about a time when you think angels helped or protected your family.