

Introducing Jesus: Lesson 1

A Long Awaited Hope Arrives

Luke 1:1-38

Materials Needed:

- Intro Activity Worksheet (one per child)
- Bible
- Paper plates (one per child)
- Pom poms
- Markers, stickers, paint (optional)

Intro Activity: Read and color provided worksheet.

We are starting a new series this week! We will be learning from the book of Luke.

The book of Luke tells us a lot about the life of Jesus and gives us a look at many of the lessons He taught the people.

We will meet many characters throughout the book. This week we are meeting three: Zechariah, Elizabeth, and Mary.

(Ask kids to share drawings)

Lead class to large group space or transition to lesson time within your room

Large Group

Welcome the class to large group and remind them that we are learning from the book in the Bible called Luke.

Divide the kids into two groups, with an adult and a Bible in each group (disperse the youngest kids among the groups)

Group 1: Read and discuss

Zechariah and Elizabeth (Luke 1:5-25)

He was a priest

She couldn't have children

They were both old

An angel appeared to him

The angel said that his wife would have a baby

The angel said the baby's name would be John and that

the baby would lead people to God

Zechariah questioned the angel

Zechariah was no longer able to speak until the baby was

born

Elizabeth became pregnant and praised God

Their baby was going to lead people to God and prepare

the way for Jesus

Group 2: Read and discuss

Mary (Luke 1:26-38)

She was engaged to Joseph

An angel appeared to her

The angel said that God chose her to be Jesus' mother

She said that she wanted to serve God

Her baby was going to save the world from sin

Share the main things from each group with everyone.

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Teach

Our characters knew that what was happening to them was a big deal because they had heard what the prophets (God's messengers!) had said

Malachi 3: 1a says, "The Lord who rules over all says, "I will send my messenger. He will prepare my way for me."

When Zechariah was visited by the angel and when Elizabeth became pregnant, they realized that their son would be the one preparing the way for the Savior of the world!

Isaiah 7: 14 says, "The Lord himself will give you a sign. The virgin [Mary] is going to have a baby. She will give birth to a son. And he will be called Immanuel!"

When the angel came to Mary, she realized that she was going to a big part of God's plan to save His people from sin! Her baby was God's plan to save the world from sin!

The people of Israel had been waiting a very long time for some good news, something to look forward to. The Old Testament tells many stories of the people longing for the arrival of the One who would save them from sin and death.

Optional Video: - : Preparing for Jesus**

Because of sin, we are separated from God and have to die. BUT, God had a plan to save us, and that plan involved sending someone to die in our place. When Jesus came into the picture, HOPE had arrived

Think about how you feel when something you've been waiting for FINALLY happens. That's kind of how Zechariah, Elizabeth and Mary probably felt. They knew a special secret - the arrival of their Savior would be soon, and they got to be a part of the story!

Pray and Worship Together, then transition for craft (and snack).

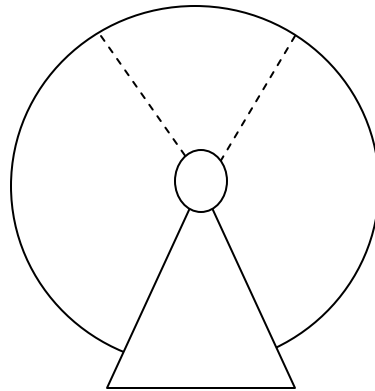
Craft: Paper Plate Angel

Angels came to speak with Zechariah, Elizabeth and Mary to tell them that HOPE had arrived, that Jesus was on His way!

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Paper Plate Angel

1. Cut a triangle out of the plate (as if you were cutting a pie piece)
2. Turn the cut piece over, placing the point in the center of the remaining plate (which is now the wings).
3. Use a pom pom or circle of paper as the angels head
4. Glue pieces together and decorate with paint, markers, stickers, etc.



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Visit [The Graceful Journey](#) blog for more!



** The video that we used is from Cross Roads Kids Club – [check out all their awesome resources here!](#) Search the video title in their search bar.