



## WEEK TWO – DECEMBER 2018 – PRETEEN (456)

**Bible Story:** *Someone Like You // Luke 1:26–56*

**Key Question:** *What are you willing to do to meet others' needs?*

**Memory Verse:** *“God so loved the world that he gave his one and only Son. Anyone believes in him will not die but will have eternal life.” – John 3:16 NIV*

**Life App:** *Compassion – Caring enough to do something about someone*

**Basic Truth:** *I can trust God no matter what*

**Summary:** Next, we look at Luke 1:26–56, when Gabriel came and made a huge announcement to Mary. God was about to rescue the world through Jesus, and she had an important role to play. Mary was overwhelmed by God’s love for the world and the part she got to play by fulfilling God’s plan to send a Savior.

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**8:50–9:00 | 10:20–10:30 | 11:50–12:00 – FREE PLAY**

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**9:00–9:10 | 10:30–10:40 | 12:00–12:10 – PRESERVICE ACTIVITY**

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## **1. Just for Fun**

*Imagine: an activity that promotes empathy and facilitates biblical application through role-play*

**What You Need:** N/A

### **What You Do:**

- Form a circle.
- Ask one person to stand in the middle.
  - Randomly assign each student (including the person in the middle) one of the following Christmas items: tree, wreath, tinsel
  - Ask the circle to rearrange so that everyone except the person in the middle is in a different spot.
  - Explain that when the player in the middle calls out one of the Christmas items, those who are assigned that item must switch places with each other, at which point the student in the middle will try to steal an empty spot.
  - Whoever is left without a spot comes to the middle and repeats the process.
  - Tell the group that if the person in the middle calls out “Blizzard!” the whole group must switch spots.

**Lead your group to the Large Group area.**

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**9:10–9:45 | 10:40–11:15 | 12:10–12:45 – LARGE GROUP**

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### **OVERVIEW:**

**Key Question:** *What are you willing to do to meet others’ needs? Mary sacrificed a lot to carry Jesus and raise Him. God may ask us to do something big to point others to Him. We hope that preteens start thinking about the ways God can use them to show compassion and meet the needs of others.*

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**9:45–10:05 | 11:15–11:35 | 12:45–1:05 SMALL GROUP**

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## **1. Take a Snapshot**

### **[Application Activity]**

*Connect: an activity that invites kids to share with others and build on their understanding*

**What You Need:** N/A

### **What You Do:**

- Ask students to imagine that they could have any skill (an actual ability—not a superpower) or possession of their choosing, but tell them not to say what it is just yet.
- Take turns asking one of the students “yes or no” questions in order to guess what his desired skill or possession is.
  - The group can ask up to 10 questions before guessing.
- Take time to discuss ways the skill or possessions could be used to meet the needs of others.

**What You Say:** “It’s a good thing we don’t have to be millionaires or rock stars in order for God to use us to meet the needs of others. God has been using ordinary people like us to do great and extraordinary things for a long time. The secret isn’t in what we have or don’t have. It’s all about how willing we are to let God use us.”

## **2. Bible Story Extension**

### **[Bible Story Review]**

*Imagine: an activity that promotes empathy and facilitates biblical application through role-play*

**What You Need:** Bibles; “Descriptions” Activity Page; basket

### **What You Do:**

- Ask the students to share highlights of what they remember from Large Group.
  - What did they find unique about Mary’s story?
  - In what ways was Mary just an ordinary young girl?
  - In what ways was Mary extraordinary?
- After this brief review, give each student an adhesive bow.
- Ask them to attach it to themselves anywhere on their head or face, knee, elbow, hand, or foot.
- Sit in a circle.
- Set out the basket containing the folded “Descriptions” cards from the Activity Page.
- Invite one of the students to take out a card and read it to him or herself.

- If the word on the card does not describe Mary, he/she can show it to everyone and explain why he/she feels it's not true about her.
- If the card does describe Mary, instead of showing the others, the student must "write" the word in the air or on the floor using the bow on his/her body as the tip of a pen to spell the word. He/she may not talk or give hints.
- The remaining team members must try to guess the specified word.
- When a word is guessed correctly, pause and let students share ways in which Mary displayed the characteristic written on the card.
- Continue until everyone has had a turn.
- Remind students that God used Mary, an ordinary girl from Nazareth, in an extraordinary way to bring the Savior into the world to rescue us.
- Go deeper. If time allows, invite the students to look up Luke 1:38 then discuss Mary's willing response to God's plan as seen in this verse. Ask:
  - When the angel first appeared to Mary, she could not have known all that God was going to do through her to meet the needs of so many people. What can you learn from the way Mary's response?
  - What are some ways you can be a servant of God and meet the needs of others?

### **3. Discussion Questions**

#### **[Application Activity]**

*Connect: an activity that invites kids to share with others and build on their understanding*

**What You Need:** N/A

#### **What You Do:**

- ASK
  - What are some reasons we have for not being willing to meet others' needs?
  - What would help us be more willing to meet someone else's need?
  - What is the greatest need at your school? What can be done?
  - What are you willing to do to meet others' needs?
  - Is there ever a time when you might have to say "no" to meeting someone's need? Explain why or why not.

### **4. Make It Personal with Prayer**

#### **[Prayer Activity]**

*Reflect: an activity that creates space for personal understanding and application*

**What You Need:** Bible

#### **What You Do:**

- Sit quietly for a minute or two and let students think through the things they heard about compassion in Large Group and during their Small Group time.
- Ask them to consider how God might be challenging them to be more willing to meet others' needs.
- If they're willing, let them share what came to mind as they thought back over their experiences today.
- Read 1 Peter 4:10 and Invite them to talk to God about ways they can serve others this week.

**What You Say:**

*“Dear God, thank You for giving us all that we need to serve You. We don't all have the same skills or ways of serving You, but each of us has opportunities to meet the needs of others in some way. Help us to be faithful servants who live out compassion for others. In Jesus' name, amen.”*