



PRELUDE SOCIAL WORSHIP STORY GROUPS HOME

PROVIDING TIME FOR FUN INTERACTION
15 MINUTES

MADE TO PLAY

an activity that encourages preschoolers to follow guidelines while having fun and learning new concepts



FLY THE ANGEL

WHAT YOU NEED: "Angel" Activity Page, cardstock, scissors, paper towel tube, masking tape, yarn, and two classroom chairs

WHAT YOU DO:

BEFORE THE ACTIVITY: Copy "Angel" onto cardstock and cut out, one per small group. Tape the angel cutout to

the paper towel tube. Run the yarn through the tube. Set the classroom chairs several feet apart. Attach the two ends of the yarn to the backs of the chairs with tape. Make sure the yarn is tight.

DURING THE ACTIVITY: Point out the angel. Have the children take turns flying the angel from one chair back to its original spot by running it along the yarn. Encourage them to hold onto the tube so that the angel remains upright as they move it.

AFTER THE ACTIVITY: Remove the yarn from the chairs. Talk about how we'll hear about an angel in our story.

WHAT YOU SAY:

BEFORE THE ACTIVITY: "Friends, come stand here with me! What do you see? (Pause.) An angel!"

DURING THE ACTIVITY: "Let's make the angel fly. Here, I'll show you. (Demonstrate.) Let's take turns. You can fly the angel from one chair back to the other. (Pause.) Make sure every friend has a turn. Great job of taking turns and making the angel fly back and forth. That was so fun!"

AFTER THE ACTIVITY: "Today, we'll hear about an angel who appeared to Mary with a very special message. Come with me!"

TRANSITION: Move to Worship and Story by pretending to fly like an angel.

BIBLE STORY

God told Mary she would have His Son, Jesus.

THE ANGEL AND MARY
LUKE 1:26-33, 38, 46-49

MEMORY VERSE

"God loved the world so much that he gave his only Son."

JOHN 3:16, GNT

KEY QUESTION

Why is Jesus special?

BOTTOM LINE

Jesus is God's Son.

BASIC TRUTH

God loves me.



WEEK
ONE
DECEMBER 2022

SMALL GROUP
Preschool

PRELUDE SOCIAL WORSHIP STORY GROUPS HOME

CREATING A SAFE PLACE TO CONNECT
25 MINUTES

MADE TO CREATE
an activity that allows preschoolers to review the Bible story, bottom line, or memory verse by creating a craft to take home



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THE ANGEL AND MARY
LUKE 1:26-33, 38, 46-49

MEMORY VERSE
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KEY QUESTION
Why is Jesus special?

BOTTOM LINE
Jesus is God's Son.

BASIC TRUTH
God loves me.

ANGEL WINGS
[TALK ABOUT GOD | BIBLE STORY REVIEW]
WHAT YOU NEED: "Mary and Angel" Activity Page, cardstock, washable craft paint, disposable plates, and hand wipes; Optional thick art paper

WHAT YOU DO:
BEFORE THE ACTIVITY: Copy "Mary and Angel" on cardstock, one per child. Pour a small amount of washable craft paint on a disposable plate. Option: To make the craft into a keepsake, copy "Mary and Angel" on thick art paper and cut off the copy directions at the bottom.

DURING THE ACTIVITY: Give each child a "Mary and Angel" Activity Page. Assist the children in pressing the palm side of their hands down in the paint. Next, guide the children in pressing their hands down on each side of the angel on their activity page to make angel wings. Clean the child's hands.

AFTER THE ACTIVITY: Talk about how God sent an angel to tell Mary that she would have God's Son and His name would be Jesus.

WHAT YOU SAY:
BEFORE THE ACTIVITY: "Hi, friends! Come sit with me. We're going to make angel wings!"

DURING THE ACTIVITY: "In our Bible story today, we learned that God sent an angel (*point to the angel*) to tell Mary (*point to Mary*) some very exciting news! What did the angel tell Mary? (*Pause.*) Yes! The angel told Mary that she would have a very special baby. What was the baby's name? (*Pause.*) Jesus! And **why is Jesus special? Jesus is God's Son!**

"Let's make something you can take home that will help you remember what the angel told Mary. Press your hand down in the paint and let me help you press it on the paper. (*Pause.*) There's one angel wing. Press your hand on the other side. (*Pause.*) Your little handprints made the angel's wings!" (*Clean hands.*)

AFTER THE ACTIVITY: "Now you have a picture to take home that shows the angel telling Mary that she would have Baby Jesus. **Why is Jesus special? Jesus is God's Son!**"



WEEK
ONE
DECEMBER 2022

SMALL GROUP
Preschool

PRELUDE SOCIAL WORSHIP STORY GROUPS HOME

CREATING A SAFE PLACE TO CONNECT
25 MINUTES

MADE TO MOVE

an activity that uses a preschooler's natural desire to move to help them learn



MEMORY VERSE WITH MOTIONS

[HEAR FROM GOD | MEMORY VERSE REVIEW]

WHAT YOU NEED: "Memory Verse Card" from the Home folder, cardstock, and scissors

WHAT YOU DO:

BEFORE THE ACTIVITY: Copy "Memory Verse Card" on cardstock and cut apart, one per child. Place cards near the door to hand to parents as they pick up their children. Say the memory verse and do the following motions in front of the children.

"God (*point up*) loved the world so much (*hug yourself*) that he gave (*hands out with palms up*) his only Son (*rock arms like a baby*)," John 3:16. (*Open hands like a book.*)

"God (*point up*) loved the world so much (*hug yourself*) that he gave (*hands out with palms up*) his only Son (*rock arms like a baby*)," John 3:16. (*Open hands like a book.*)

DURING THE ACTIVITY: Say the verse again with the motions and invite the children to do it with you. Repeat several times.

AFTER THE ACTIVITY: Talk about why Jesus is special. Hand out the cards to parents as they pick up their children.

WHAT YOU SAY:

BEFORE THE ACTIVITY: "Hello, everyone! We have a brand-new memory verse. I'll say our new memory verse and do the motions. Everyone, listen and watch me!

"God (*point up*) loved the world so much (*hug yourself*) that he gave (*hands out with palms up*) his only Son (*rock arms like a baby*)," John 3:16. (*Open hands like a book.*)

DURING THE ACTIVITY: "Now, let's do it together! Are you ready?"

"God (*point up*) loved the world so much (*hug yourself*) that he gave (*hands out with palms up*) his only Son (*rock arms like a baby*)," John 3:16. (*Open hands like a book.*) Amazing! Let's do it again." (*Repeat as many times as desired.*)

AFTER THE ACTIVITY: "God loves us so much that God gave us a super special gift—Jesus! **Why is Jesus special? Jesus is God's Son!**"

BIBLE STORY

God told Mary she would have His Son, Jesus.

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LUKE 1:26-33, 38, 46-49

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KEY QUESTION

Why is Jesus special?

BOTTOM LINE

Jesus is God's Son.

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God loves me.



CREATING A SAFE PLACE TO CONNECT
25 MINUTES

MADE TO REFLECT

an activity that encourages personal application and prayer



JOURNAL AND PRAYER

[PRAY TO GOD | PRAYER ACTIVITY]

WHAT YOU NEED: "Memory Verse Card" Activity Page, cardstock, scissors, Bible, paperclip, journal, and a fun-shaped pen

WHAT YOU DO:

BEFORE THE ACTIVITY: Copy "Memory Verse Card" on cardstock and cut, one per small group. Paperclip "Memory Verse Card" in your Bible at John 3:16.

DURING THE ACTIVITY: Talk about today's Bible Story, say the memory verse, and write good things people have told us in the journal.

AFTER THE ACTIVITY: Pray together.

WHAT YOU SAY:

BEFORE THE ACTIVITY:

SMALL GROUP LEADER (SGL): "It's Small Group time! Today, we'll pretend we're flying with angel wings. Follow me, little angels! (*Pretend your arms are wings and you are an angel flying as you lead the children to your Small Group spot.*) Here we are! Now let's sit down and talk about today's Bible story. One, two, three, sit down with me!"

DURING THE ACTIVITY:

SGL: (*Open Bible and lay it in front of the children.*) "In our Bible story today, we heard the beginning of the true story of Christmas. There was an angel and a girl named Mary. What did the angel tell Mary? (*Pause.*) Yes, the angel told Mary she would have a special baby named Jesus. **Why is Jesus special?**"

CHILDREN AND SGL: "Jesus is God's Son!"

SGL: "That's right! **Jesus is God's Son!** And the Bible verse we'll begin learning today tells us why God gave us His Son, Jesus. It says . . . (*Turn the pages of your Bible to the Memory Verse Card.*) 'God loved the world so much that he gave his only Son,' John 3:16. (*Close Bible and lay it down.*)

"Wow! God loves you, and **God loves me!** Who loves you?"

CHILDREN AND SGL: "God loves me!"

SGL: "You got it! God loves you, and **God loves me.** That's why God gave us His only Son, Jesus! Let's stand up and say those words together with the motions. Just say what I say and do what I do."

CHILDREN AND SGL: "'God (*point up*) loved the world so much (*hug yourself*)

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WEEK
ONE
DECEMBER 2022

SMALL GROUP
3-5 YEAR
-OLDS

PRELUDE

SOCIAL

WORSHIP

STORY

GROUPS

HOME

CREATING A SAFE PLACE TO CONNECT
25 MINUTES

(JOURNAL AND PRAYER, CONTINUED)

that he gave (*hands out with palms up*) his only Son (*rock arms like a baby*),’ John 3:16.” (*Open hands like a book.*)

(*Repeat the verse with motions a few times.*)

SGL: “Yay! God loves us, and **Jesus is God’s Son!**”

“Now, let’s sit down so we can write in our prayer journal and talk to God. (*Hold journal and fun-shaped pen.*) Today, we’ll make a list of good things people have told us. Like someone may have told you that you were going on a fun trip, or someone told you that a friend was coming over to play, or maybe someone told you that you were having ice cream after dinner. Yum!

“So think about it. What is something good that someone told you? (*Say each child’s name and write down what they say beside their names in the journal. Remember to print so the children can recognize their names and the letters.*)

“This is a list of some really good things! If Mary were here, she would probably say that the best thing she was ever told was that she would have God’s Son, Jesus.

“Let’s pray. Would anyone like to pray before I pray?” (*Give each child who wants to pray the opportunity to do so.*)

AFTER THE ACTIVITY:

SGL: “Dear God, thank You for good things like (*read the list the children made*). Most of all, thank You for the good news that You love us so much You gave us Your Son, Jesus. We love You, God. In Jesus’ name, amen.”