1st-5th Grade Small Group Lesson

Session Title: Angels Spoke to Mary and Joseph **Bible Passage:** Matthew 1:18-24; Luke 1:26-56

Main Point: God chose Mary and Joseph to be Jesus' earthly parents.

Key Passage: 1 John 4:9

Big Picture Question: Why was Jesus born? Jesus was born to

rescue us from sin.

Christ Connection: The baby Jesus fulfilled Isaiah's prophecy, as well as other Old Testament prophecies, about the coming Savior. Through His life, death, and resurrection, Jesus fulfilled God's plan of redemption that God planned before the world began.

Bible Story Review

Say the statements one by one and have the child guess the name that the statement is referring to.

Statements:

- The angel appeared when this person was awake.(Mary)
- The angel spoke to this person in a dream. (Joseph)
- This person was told she was going to be the mother of God's Son. (Mary)
- This person was told to take Mary as his wife. (Joseph)
- The angel told this person to name the baby Jesus. (both)
- This person went to visit Elizabeth. (Mary)
- This person was a descendant of King David. (Joseph)

Mary was an ordinary girl chosen by God to be the mother of His one and only Son. The task was extraordinary, but she trusted God to do what was best. Joseph was a carpenter who wanted to marry Mary until he found out she had a baby. An angel assured Joseph that the baby in Mary's belly was from God. The angel told Joseph to be Mary's husband and to name the baby Jesus. God chose Mary and Joseph to be the earthly parents of Jesus.

Deliver the Message

Invite everyone to sit in a circle at the table. Whisper in the ear of the person at your right a special message that he or she will whisper in the ear of the person next to them. Continue around the circle until the message reaches the last person, who will stand up and say the message aloud.

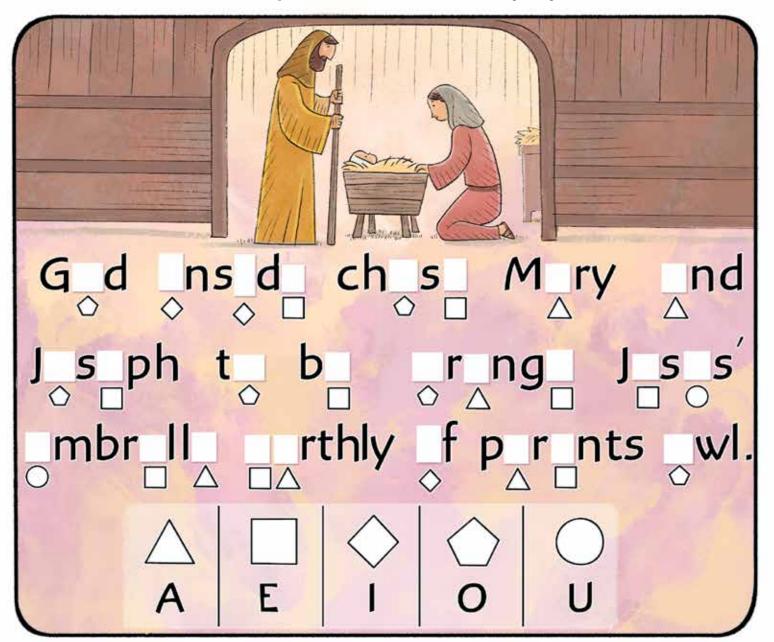
Each one of you got to deliver a message to your friends. Does that remind you of anyone from our story? Just like you delivered my message, the angel delivered God's message to Mary and Joseph. And do you remember that message? God chose Mary and Joseph to be the earthly parents of Jesus.



Vowel Swap



INSTRUCTIONS: Use the vowel code to complete each word. Then cross out words beginning with *I*, *O* or *U* to see the Main Point. **KEY PASSAGE:** 1 John 4:9



BIG PICTURE QUESTION:

• Why was Jesus born? Jesus was born to rescue us from sin.

BIBLE STORY: ANGELS SPOKE TO MARY AND JOSEPH

- An angel told Mary that she would be Jesus' mother.
- She visited her cousin, whose baby jumped in her belly!
- God gave Joseph a dream explaining that Mary's baby was from God.
- Joseph obeyed God and became Mary's husband.

FAMILY DISCUSSION STARTERS:

- How do you think it felt to be Mary or Joseph?
- Why is Jesus' earthly family important?
- What about being Jesus' earthly family would be hard? What might be easy?

FAMILY ACTIVITY:

• Celebrate Advent with your family. Find instructions for making an Advent wreath and read through a devotional. Light the appropriate candles and sing carols together.

> Younger Kids Activity Pages Unit 29, Session 1