



Mary Hears Good News

Matthew 1:18-25; Luke 1:26-56

A long, long time ago, God promised He would send His special Son. God's people waited and waited and waited. They wanted God to send His Son. One person who waited for God's promise was a young woman named Mary.

One day Mary was alone. She looked up. Standing right there beside her was an angel! Mary had never seen an angel before!

"Hello, Mary," the angel said. "God is with you." Mary was surprised and afraid. "Don't be afraid, Mary," the angel said. "God loves you. He has chosen you to be the mother of a very special baby. You will name the baby Jesus. He will be very great. This special baby will be God's own Son!" Mary was glad to hear this promise!

How exciting! Mary hurried to tell her cousin Elizabeth the wonderful news. Mary walked into Elizabeth's house. Just then God let Elizabeth know that Mary was going to be the mother of His Son, Jesus. Elizabeth said, "Mary, you're a special woman and your baby is very special!" Mary was glad. She thanked God. She told God she loved Him.

Very soon a man named Joseph was going to be Mary's husband. One night Joseph was asleep. An angel talked to him in a dream. "Mary is going to have a special baby. He is God's Son," the angel said. "You will name Him Jesus." Joseph was glad God was sending His Son, Jesus. Joseph was glad he could help care for this special baby God had promised.

Angel Ornaments

Collect

Bible, small paper plates, scissors, small paper doilies, ruler, 2-inch (5-cm) circles made from pink construction paper, chenille wires (white, gold and/or metallic), transparent tape, markers.

Prepare

Cut paper plates and doilies in half, one half of each for each child. Cut chenille wires into 6-inch (15-cm) lengths.

Do

1. Children bring the corners of the cut edge of each paper plate half together to create a cone shape for angel body. Help children tape edges together. Children tape a paper doily half to the back of each cone to make wings.

2. Children use markers to draw a face on each pink circle and tape face to an angel. Help children make halos from chenille wire: form a loop with a stem; tape stem to back of angel face.

Enrichment Ideas

1. Older children cut paper plates and doilies in half and trace and cut out face circles.
2. Children decorate angel bodies with seasonal stickers.

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I can thank God for His promise to send His Son, Jesus.

Talk About

- ☺ In today's Bible story, an angel talked to Mary and then later to Joseph. The angel told good news: God's Son, Jesus, would be born. Let's make some angel ornaments to remind us of the good news about Jesus.
- ☺ We can thank God for His promise to send Jesus to be born. At Christmastime, whose birth do we celebrate? I'm glad God kept His promise and sent Jesus to be born.
- ☺ Olivia, what does your family do to celebrate Jesus' birth? Let's thank God for His promise to send Jesus to be born.





The Angel's Good News

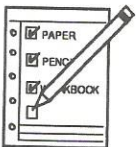
Luke 1:26-38; Matt. 1:18-25

God sent an angel to Mary and Joseph with some happy news. First, the angel visited Mary and told her that she was going to have a baby boy. Mary would call His name Jesus. Then the angel told Joseph to take care of Mary and the baby.

Folding Angel Picture

Mary and Joseph both listened to the angel's good news. They were happy to obey God. We can listen and obey God, too.

Color the pictures. Your teacher will show you how to cut the pictures to let the angel visit Mary and then Joseph.

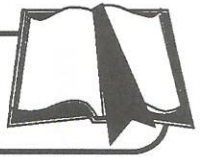


For the Teacher: After the children color, help them cut their pictures on the thick solid lines and fold the angel back on the broken lines. Show them how to make their pictures tell the angel's story. Have the angel first visit Mary, then Joseph. Next, the children can open their pictures to show Mary and Joseph both saying they will obey God. Then they can fold the picture back to show the angel returning to heaven.

Golden Angel Ornaments

The Angel's Good News

Luke 1:26-38; Matt. 1:18-25

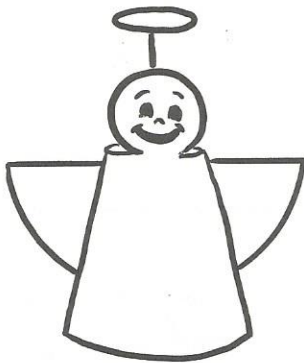
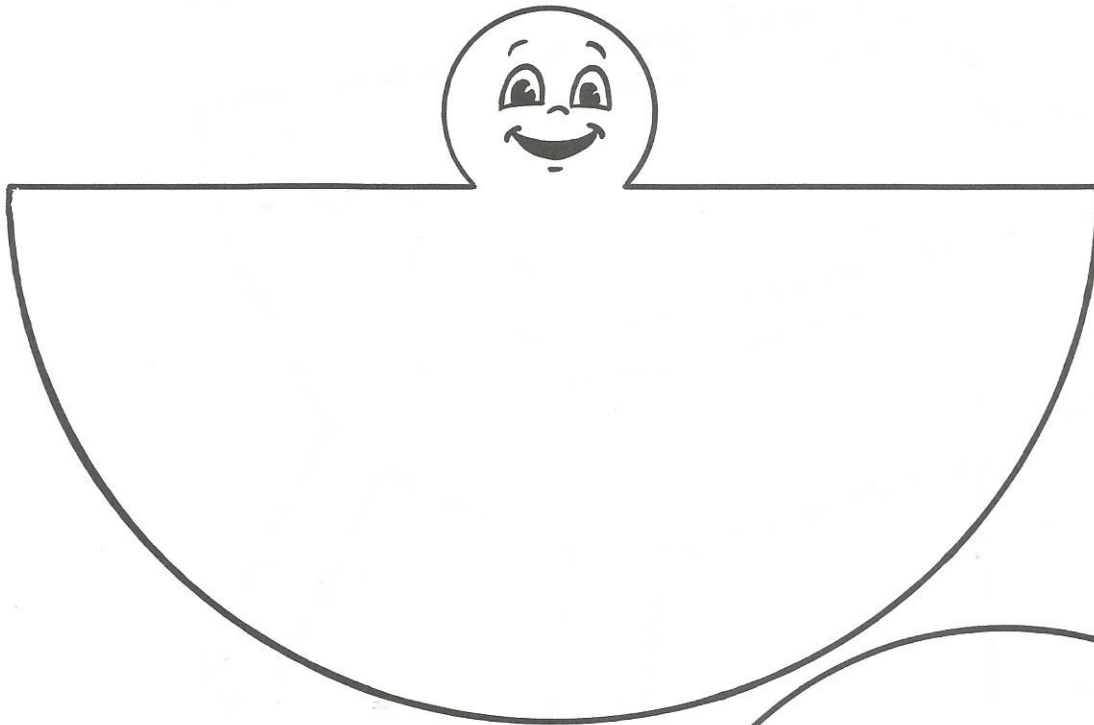


The Bible tells many stories about angels. Angels brought news from God. Angels kept people safe. The happiest angel stories are those about Jesus' birth.

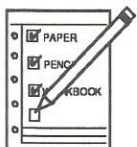
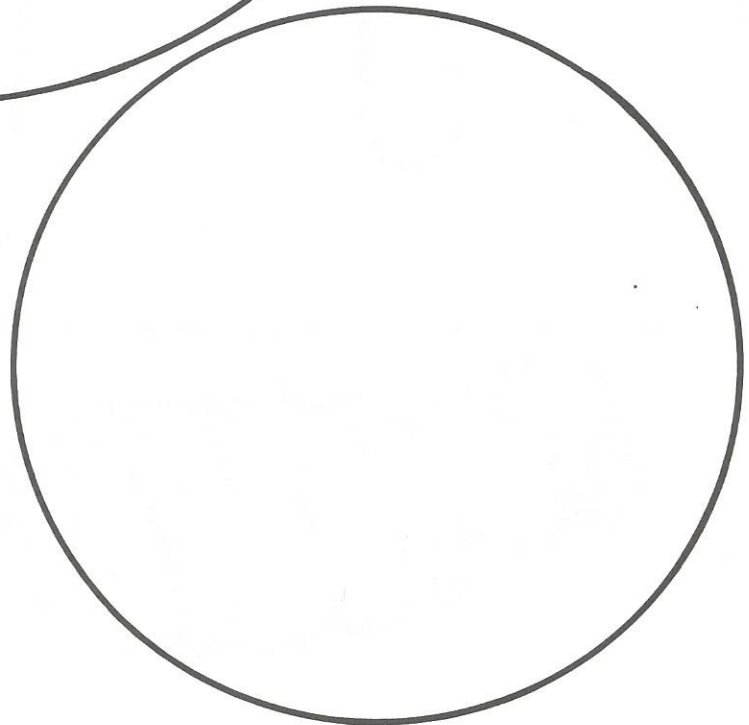
You can make a golden angel ornament to decorate your home and help you celebrate

Christmas, the birthday of God's Son.

Your ornament will help remind you of the angel who visited Mary and Joseph and who also came the night Jesus was born. Your teacher will show you how to make your angel so it will hang on your Christmas tree.



Finished Angel



For the Teacher: Pre-cut an angel and a circle from metallic gold giftwrap or foil for each child. Help each child bend the angel body into a cone, shiny side out, and glue the straight sides together to form the angel's body and head. Help each child fold a circle in half, shiny side out, and glue it to the back of the angel to make wings. Tape a loop of narrow ribbon behind the angel's head for a hanger. Children may add ribbon or yarn for hair and paper for eyes.



An angel of the Lord came to a young girl and said,
"Mary, you are going to be the mother of God's Son."

Luke 1:26-38