



# NPC Children

## November 28<sup>th</sup> Family Lesson

**Bible Story:** The Annunciation (Luke 1:26-38; 46-55)

**Theological Application:** The word of God saves us.

**Memory Verse:** “For a child has been born for us, a son given to us; authority rests upon his shoulders; and he is named Wonderful Counselor, Mighty God, Everlasting Father, Prince of Peace.” (Isaiah 9:6)

**Lesson Background:** *Today is the first day of Advent. The word Advent means coming and in this Advent season which extends through December 24<sup>th</sup> is a time of hope, faith, joy, and peace. We remember that “God so loved the world that he gave his only Son, so that everyone who believes in him may not perish but may have eternal life” (John 3:16). During Advent, we celebrate and reflect upon Christ’s first coming and as a community we wait together for his second coming.*

*In his gospel, Luke records the sacred moment when God, through his angel Gabriel, announces to Mary that she will bear God’s one and only Son. The lesson today is focused on weight of that blessing for Mary.*

**The objective** for this Sunday is for your children to consider some of the many aspects of what the coming blessing of Jesus meant for Mary, for her fellow Israelites, and for us as believers today.

---

LESSON

## Opening With Scripture

*The purpose of this exercise is to read scripture to/with your child(ren).*

**What you need:** *Bible or the scripture page provided in this lesson*

### **What you do:**

- **Read:** or invite your child(ren) to read Luke 1:26-38; 46-55.
- **Ask:**
  - What was Mary's reaction to the Angel Gabriel's words? Perplexed
  - Why would she have been perplexed?
  - Gabriel also noticed that Mary was afraid. Why would she be afraid?
  - Mary expressed doubts about how she could have a baby because she was not yet married. What did the angel say?
  - When Mary gave her song of praise, how do you think she felt about receiving this great blessing?

## Art Study

*The purpose of this exercise is to engage your child(ren)'s imagination to help them understand and retain the biblical narrative.*

**What you need:** *The Annunciation* by John William Waterhouse

### **What you do:**

- **Show:** The painting to your child(ren) and invite them to make observations. If they need help to begin, ask them questions like:
  - Will you please describe what you see?
  - Based on what we just read, who do you think are the two figures in this picture?
  - Why do you think Mary is on her knees? What may have she been doing?
  - What is Mary doing with her hands and what do you think that says about what she is feeling?
  - What expression is on her face?
  - What is the angel doing?
  - If you could ask the painter anything about this painting, what would it be?

### **Painting background and analysis:**

The Annunciation is an oil on canvas painting drawn in 1914 by John William Waterhouse (1849-1917), a British Italian painter. The painting captures Virgin Mary with one hand on her head and the other on her chest. The two hands may portray different reactions. The hand on her head relays a possible lack of understanding, surprise, perhaps even a dawning concern for the ramifications of the angel's message. The hand on her chest could likely signify a gesture of gratitude or a display of humility. The expression on Mary's face suggests a peaceful composure. Both figures have a halo which signifies a spiritual character. Mary's body position suggests humility. To the right of Mary can be seen an open

book and a kneeling pillow along with a spindle of thread which may be meant to indicate that the angelic visitation took Mary by surprise while she was at prayer or perhaps meditating upon God's word while working.

The angel Gabriel extends flowers towards Mary. Gabriel's other hand is in a gesture of peace as if to say "do not be afraid."

## **Memory Verse Discussion**

*The purpose of this activity is to help the children retain the scripture through discussion.*

**Memory Verse** "For a child has been born for us, a son given to us; authority rests upon his shoulders; and he is named Wonderful Counselor, Mighty God, Everlasting Father, Prince of Peace." (Isaiah 9:6)

### **What You do:**

- **Read** the verse aloud together three times.
- **Ask:** In the scripture we read together the angel referred to the baby in three ways. What were those ways?
- **Ask:** What are the names that Isaiah gave?
- **Repeat:** the memory verse together

## **Prayer**

Open in a prayer of gratitude and praise and invite the children to pray about whatever is on their heart. Please be aware that some children may prefer to pray silently or have the lead pray on their behalf.

## **Craft Activity**

*The purpose of this activity is to think about the different ways that Jesus is described in scripture.*

**What You need:** Craft pages, markers.

### **What You do:**

- Print the craft pages.
- Encourage your child(ren) to color the various names of Jesus while they think about how Mary saying yes to God has impacted their life.

## **Reflection Activity For Parents and Children This Week:**

Each day this week select a name from the *Names Of Jesus* list by Pure Joy Creative and explore what aspects of Jesus are revealed in the name.

## Today's Scripture

### **The Birth of Jesus Foretold**

<sup>26</sup> In the sixth month the angel Gabriel was sent by God to a town in Galilee called Nazareth, <sup>27</sup> to a virgin engaged to a man whose name was Joseph, of the house of David. The virgin's name was Mary. <sup>28</sup> And he came to her and said, "Greetings, favored one! The Lord is with you."<sup>[a]</sup> <sup>29</sup> But she was much perplexed by his words and pondered what sort of greeting this might be. <sup>30</sup> The angel said to her, "Do not be afraid, Mary, for you have found favor with God. <sup>31</sup> And now, you will conceive in your womb and bear a son, and you **will name him Jesus.** <sup>32</sup> He will be great, and will be called the **Son of the Most High,** and the Lord God will give to him the throne of his ancestor David. <sup>33</sup> He will reign over the house of Jacob forever, and of his kingdom there will be no end." <sup>34</sup> Mary said to the angel, "How can this be, since I am a virgin?"<sup>[a]</sup> <sup>35</sup> The angel said to her, "The Holy Spirit will come upon you, and the power of the Most High will overshadow you; therefore the child to be born<sup>[a]</sup> will be holy; **he will be called Son of God.**

### **Mary's Song of Praise**

<sup>46</sup> And Mary<sup>[a]</sup> said,

"My soul magnifies the Lord,  
<sup>47</sup> and my spirit rejoices in God my Savior,  
<sup>48</sup> for he has looked with favor on the lowliness of his servant.  
Surely, from now on all generations will call me blessed;  
<sup>49</sup> for the Mighty One has done great things for me,  
and holy is his name.  
<sup>50</sup> His mercy is for those who fear him  
from generation to generation.  
<sup>51</sup> He has shown strength with his arm;  
he has scattered the proud in the thoughts of their hearts.  
<sup>52</sup> He has brought down the powerful from their thrones,  
and lifted up the lowly;  
<sup>53</sup> he has filled the hungry with good things,  
and sent the rich away empty.  
<sup>54</sup> He has helped his servant Israel,  
in remembrance of his mercy,  
<sup>55</sup> according to the promise he made to our ancestors,  
to Abraham and to his descendants forever."



# Names of Jesus

## Advent Calendar Coloring Cards

<u>Name</u>	<u>Reference</u>	<u>Advent Reading</u>
1. Morning Star	Revelation 22:16	Genesis 15:1-6
2. Light of the World	John 8:12	Isaiah 49:6-7
3. Prophet	Luke 24:19	Deuteronomy 18:15-19
4. Prince of Peace	Isaiah 9:6	Isaiah 9:2-7
5. Bread of Life	John 6:48	John 6:44-51
6. Redeemer	Isaiah 59:20	Psalms 130
7. Glory of the Lord	Isaiah 40:5	Isaiah 40:1-5
8. Savior	Luke 2:11	Luke 2:1-20
9. King of the Jews	Matthew 2:2	Matthew 2:1-2
10. Horn of Salvation	Luke 1:69	Psalms 85:1-7
11. Mediator	1 Timothy 2:5	1 Timothy 2:1-7
12. Lamb of God	John 1:29	Romans 5:1-11
13. Servant	Isaiah 52:13	Isaiah 52:13-15
14. Alpha and Omega	Revelation 1:8	Isaiah 44:6-8
15. Messiah	Daniel 9:25	Matthew 1:18-25
16. The Gate	John 10:7	John 10:7-10
17. Immanuel	Isaiah 7:14	Isaiah 7:10-14
18. Son of God	Luke 1:35	Luke 1:26-35
19. Cornerstone	Isaiah 28:16	Psalms 118:18-24
20. I Am	John 8:58	Malachi 3:1-6
21. Good Shepherd	John 10:11	Ezekiel 34:11-16
22. The Word	John 1:14	John 1:9-18
23. The Way	John 14:6	Isaiah 35:8-10
24. Jesus	Matthew 1:21	Luke 2:21-35









