

QUEST 1: MESSAGES FROM ANGELS (LUKE 1:26–33; MATTHEW 1:18–21)

KEY AIMS

- To explore the promise of God's forever King.
- To understand that being part of God's plan is sometimes difficult.

What You Need

- + Clue cards
- + Angel template
- + Activity leaflets
- + Battery powered tea light
- + *Optional - Treasure Chest and Treasure Scroll*
- + *Optional - Spire of Light*
- + *Optional - Angel templates for the craft*
- + *Optional - equipment for your chosen game*

THEME SONG

Option – play the Guardians of Ancora theme song (mp3 or video) to bring everyone together. The video can be found on the Multimedia links document in the Appendix

OPENING ACTIVITY

On page 3 and 4 you will find 8 clue cards and a template of an angel. By turning the cards over one at a time, participants will try to guess what the clue cards are talking about. Place the clue cards and the angel template face down on the table and give one participant the opportunity to turn one card over, read the clue and try to guess what it is. Continue turning the cards over until someone guesses the answer - an angel. Then turn the angel over. Explain that today the Bible story is about angels and their special messages for Mary and Joseph.

OPENING PRAYER

Thank God for His Word that helps us to learn more about God and His Son, Jesus.

READ - Luke 1:26–38

Read Mary's story aloud in the way that is suitable for your family members.

Option – play the Guardians of Ancora video of this story. The video can be found on the Multimedia links document in the Appendix

TALK ABOUT IT

Once you have finished, encourage the children to think about how Mary might have felt after she had been visited by the angel.

READ - Matthew 1:18–25

Read Joseph's story aloud in the way that is suitable for your family members.

TALK ABOUT IT

Talk about how Joseph might have felt both before and after he had been visited by the angel. Spend a few moments wondering what is happening here. Why did God send the angel? Could God have chosen another way to give his message? What can we learn about Jesus and God from how God spoke and what he said and did?



DIG A LITTLE DEEPER

Take time to complete the activity sheets. (There is one for younger and one for older children.) When everyone has finished, find out what word is in the grey area of the puzzle and explain that Nazareth was where Mary and Joseph lived. Then compare the expressions on the younger activity sheet. Go back to the passage and allow everyone to say what they think was most surprising.

WHAT DOES THIS MEAN FOR US?

Remind everyone what the angel says about Jesus. Encourage everyone to say what this tells them about who Jesus is and what he will do *Option - Write your comments and thoughts on the Treasure Scroll. Then roll it up and place it in the Treasure Chest.*

PRAY TOGETHER

Use a battery powered tea light each day for your prayer together time. Turn the light on and pass it around to each family member as they pray. *Option - after praying you could add the tea light to the Spire of Light.*

Explain to the family that each day you will spend some time praying together. Give them time to think about what they would like to pray or talk to Jesus about after hearing the story about the message from angels. Explain that you are going to pass the light around and that it will be their turn to pray when they get the light. Also, explain that if they don't want to pray out loud they can pass it on to the next person. To begin, hold the light, pray, and then pass it on to the next person until everyone has an opportunity to pray.

CRAFT

Option – "Make an Angel" - see below

GAME

Option – choose a game from the games in the Appendix

THEME SONG

Option – play the Guardians of Ancora theme song (mp3 or video) to finish your time together. The video can be found on the Multimedia links document in the Appendix

CRAFT

MAKE AN ANGEL

SUPPLIES

- Copies of the angel template used in the opening activity
- Metallic paper (rolls of shiny gift wrap would be ideal)
- Felt-tip markers
- Cotton balls or yarn
- Scissors and glue

DIRECTIONS

Give each participant an angel template (and help them cut it out if needed). Invite them to decorate the angel with the metallic paper, commenting that in the Bible, angels are often described as shining beings. Encourage them to draw a face and stick on cotton balls for hair. As everyone works on their angel talk about today's story. How would they feel if they were an angel and what would they do? How would they feel if they saw an angel or had a dream about one?



I \W/E ARE BRIGHT
AND SHINY.

2 ALTHØUGH
WE MIGHT LØØK
IT, WE ARE NØT
HUMAN.

3 \W/E LIKE
SINGING.

4 \W/HEN WE
MEET PEOPLE, WE
USUALLY SAY,
“DØ NØT BE
AFRAID.”

5 WE SOMETIMES
APPEAR TO
BE FLYING,
SOMETIMES WE
WALK!

6 WE TAKE
MESSAGES FROM
GOD TO PEOPLE.

7 SOME OF US
HAVE NAMES -
ONE OF THOSE IS
GABRIEL.

8 YOU MIGHT
HAVE BEEN ONE
OF US IN A
CHRISTMAS PLAY.

ANGEL TEMPLATE



How do you think Mary felt as she saw the angel and listened to what he had to say?

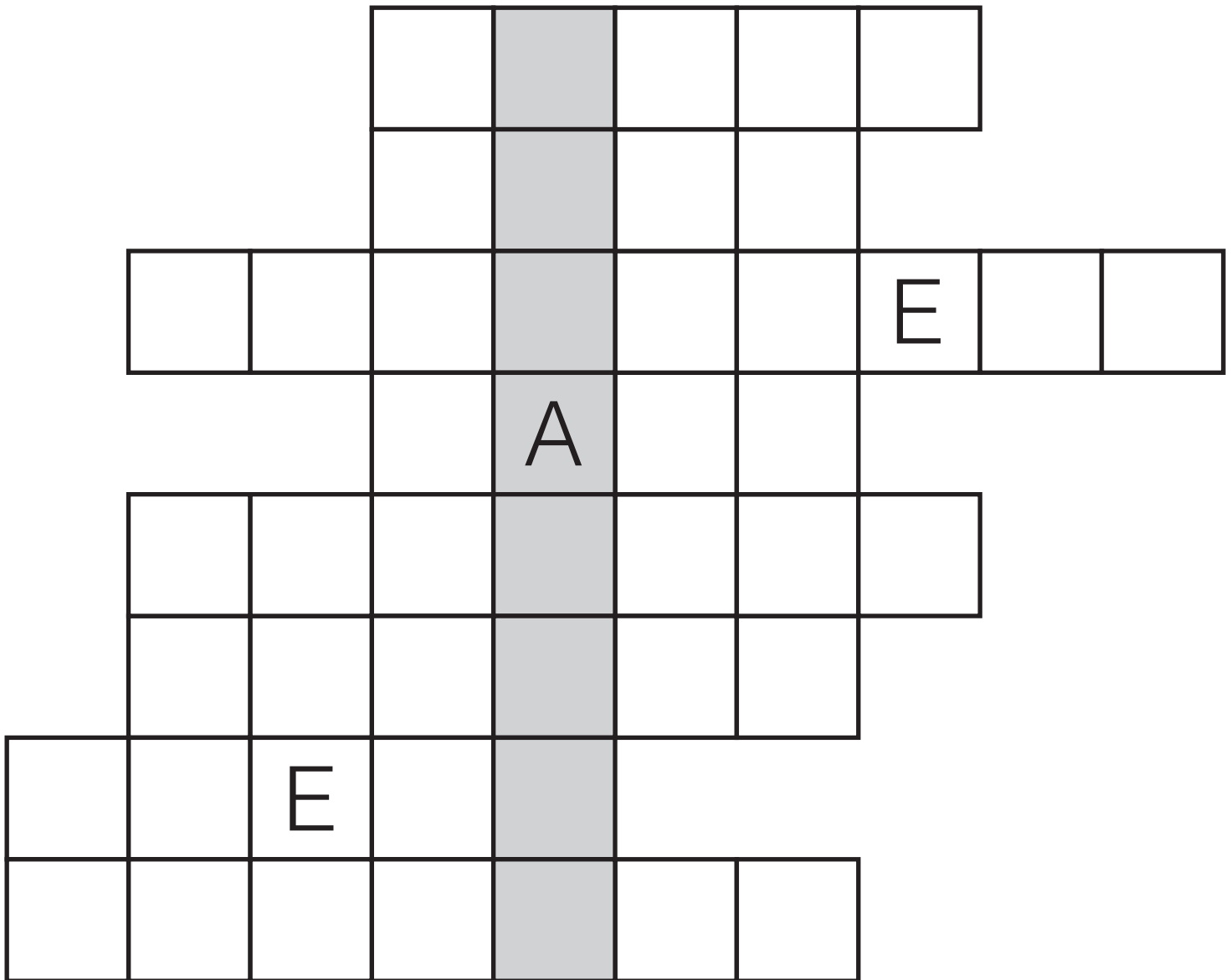


Draw in Mary's face to show what you think!

How do you think Joseph felt when he woke from his very strange dream?

Draw in Joseph's face to show how he felt!





BABY	GABRIEL
JOSEPH	GREAT
PROPHET	ANGEL
MARY	ELIZABETH

**FILL IN
THE BOXES TO
REVEAL THE
WORD IN GRAY!**

TREASURE SCROLL

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What this tells us about who Jesus is and what he will do.

