



AN ANGEL VISITS MARY

Luke 1:26-38

Memory Verse

Mary said, "I am the Lord's servant. Let it happen as you have said." Luke 1:38

Context/Background

The Christian church confesses in the Apostles' Creed, that Jesus Christ, 'was conceived by the Holy Spirit, born of the virgin Mary.' The story of the angel Gabriel's visit to Mary invites us to wonder that God should choose such an ordinary woman to be the mother of such an extraordinary child. She is betrothed to Joseph, who belongs to King David's family. This is important because the promised Messiah would be 'the son of David.' Joseph and Mary are legally bound to each other, but they have not yet begun living together as husband and wife. Mary shows her humility, trust and obedience. She gives us an example to follow.

Summary

God sent the angel Gabriel to Mary, a young woman who lived in Nazareth, a little town in Galilee. The angel told Mary that God had chosen her to give birth to his son, Jesus. The baby would be the Messiah – the king foretold in hundreds of years of prophecies, who would save God's people. Mary was confused because she was a virgin, but the angel told her that she would become pregnant by the power of the Holy Spirit. He told her that nothing is impossible with God. Mary trusted in God's word and said she was the Lord's servant.

Relevance/Application **Themes: Humility, trust, obedience**

Younger students:

- God can do anything.
- We can trust God.
- We must be willing to serve God.
- God chose Mary to be the mother of his Son. God had a special job for her – he needed someone who would willingly care for Jesus, look after him, change his nappies, etc. But Mary was also special because she believed in God and wanted to do what he asked.

Older students:

- Sometimes we think that we're only important to God if we're rich, famous, important, or really good at something. But God has made us who we are, and God doesn't expect us to be someone else.
- The person you are is the person God gave Jesus for: Jesus was born for you, Jesus gave his life for you, Jesus rose again for you, and because of this, you can live each day knowing that you belong to God, and nobody can take his promises away from you. And he might have some special jobs for you to do too!

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- Mary trusted in God's word and his power to do the seemingly impossible. When we face challenges, we can trust in God's power and his word.
 - All three persons of the Trinity are present in this story – God the Father makes possible the conception of Jesus the Son in human form through the power of the Holy Spirit.
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Christian Studies Framework

Christian Beliefs

Key Idea 1 Christians believe God is one God: Father, Son and Holy Spirit

Key Idea 2 The person and work of Jesus the Christ is central to Christianity

Catechism Connections

In the Apostles' Creed we say: *I believe in Jesus Christ.... was conceived by the Holy Spirit, born of the virgin Mary.*

In one way Jesus is the same as every other person who has ever been born. He had a human mother. He was Mary's baby. But Jesus is different from every other person because God is his real father. Jesus is God's only Son. Mary knew he would be special because the angel told her that her baby would be God's son.

Discussion/Wondering Questions:

Early Years

- Imagine that an angel appeared in your kitchen and started talking to you. What would you do?
- What special job did God give Mary?

Primary

- Who was Mary? Do you think she was: Rich? Famous? From an important family? A princess?
- Why did God choose her to be Jesus' mother?
- Have you ever been told to do something but you didn't understand why? How did you react?
- What if you were asked to do something you thought was impossible? Would you give it a go?

Secondary

- What makes a person extraordinary?
 - Read Luke 1:26-38. What can we learn from Mary in these verses?
 - Compare this story to Joseph's experience in Matthew 1: 18-25. What similarities do you notice?
 - Have you ever been challenged by God to do something difficult?
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Images or objects to spark discussion

- Book of baby names – look up the meaning of the student's names, and connect to the meaning of 'Jesus' (the Lord saves).
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Telling the Story

Bibles: The Beginner's Bible
The Big Rescue Bible
The NIV Bible
The Jesus Storybook Bible - He's Here! The Nativity

Creative Storytelling: act out the story, pausing to imagine how Mary might have felt at different points.

Try this readers' theatre: <https://revlisad.com/2014/12/24/readers-theater-jesus-birth-foretold-the-annunciation-luke-126-38/>

Tracts and Other Resources

Lutheran Tract Mission

[That First Christmas](#) – tract with all the Bible texts for Christmas

[The Birth of Jesus](#) – tract and activity books for different ages

GROW Ministries

[GROW Kids – Fourth Sunday of Advent year B](#)



Audio Stories/Podcasts

Kids Corner – Bible Stories - [The Birth of Jesus](#) Creative retelling for primary school students

Bible.is - <https://www.faithcomesbyhearing.com/audio-bible-resources/bible-is>
Audio recordings of the Bible in many different languages and several English translations. All four gospels also available in film versions, searchable by book and chapter. Excellent resource for NESB learners.

Videos: Early Years / Junior Primary

[48 An Angel Visits Mary - Care Bear's Bible Stories for Kids](#)

["He's Here" - Jesus Storybook Bible, Sally Lloyd-Jones](#)

Middle – Upper Primary

[Gabriel Visits Mary - Superbook](#)

[God's Story: Mary - Crossroads Kids' Club](#)

[The Story of Christmas \(Mary and Joseph\)- Saddleback Kids](#)

Secondary/Staff

[The Birth of Jesus: Luke 1-2 - BibleProject](#)

[Gospel Of Luke Chapter 1:26-56 - LUMO](#)

Invocation

'Greetings, you who are highly favoured! The Lord is with you.'

We come here today to worship

**In the name of the Father, the Son and the Holy Spirit,
Amen.**

Prayers

Prayer

Dear God, thank you for showing your love for ordinary people by sending your Son to be born as a human being just like us. Thank you also, for choosing an ordinary woman to be his mother. Amen.

Dear loving God,
give us faith like Mary to accept the good news of Jesus' birth, and confidence to go out into the world as a servant of your love in Christ. Amen.

Mealtime Prayer

Lord God, thank you for the gift of food, family and friends, signs of your love for us. Most of all, thank you for your gift of Jesus. Amen.

Blessing

May the Lord be with you.
May God's favour rest on you
and the Holy Spirit come to you
and give you peace.

Amen.

(Name), may God's favour rest on you and the Holy Spirit come to you and give you peace.

Music

[Mary had a Baby Boy Song](#) (to the tune of Mary had a little lamb)
[The Virgin Mary Had a Baby Boy](#)
Mary's boy child

[Mary Did You Know?](#)
[Breath Of Heaven \(Mary's Song\) - Amy Grant](#)

Activities

Early Years:

- Place figures from a Christmas nativity set (e.g. wise men, shepherds, Mary, Joseph, animals) throughout your classroom. During this week, move them closer to the manger. Have Mary and Joseph arrive first, followed by the shepherds and wise men. Last of all, place Jesus in the manger.
- Make an angel ornament for the Christmas tree.

Primary:

- As a disciple of Jesus, find ways to be a servant of others in your own home during this busy time of year.

Upper Primary/Secondary:

- Create a maze outside or in the classroom using desks or masking tape on the floor. Working in pairs, have one student lead their blindfolded partner through the maze to the finish line. Talk about whether it was difficult to trust the seeing partner, and what helped. Link this to Mary's trust in God's words.
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