

# Angels: God's Messengers

## Art Workshop: Creation Station

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**Bible Text:** Luke 2:1-20

**Memory Verse:** Luke 2:10-11 NRSV

*<sup>10</sup>But the angel said to them, 'Do not be afraid; for see—I am bringing you good news of great joy for all the people: <sup>11</sup>to you is born this day in the city of David a Savior, who is the Messiah, the Lord.*

### Goals and Objectives:

At the end of the rotation, students will be able to:

- Describe an angel as a messenger of God.
- Identify who are the messengers today of God's good news.
- Know that the story of Jesus birth is found in the New Testament, and be able to find it in the Gospel of Luke.
- Know that Gospel means "Good News."
- Consider ways in which they, too, may be messengers of God's good news.
- Be able to say the Memory Verse.

### Workshop Overview:

**Art:** Students will craft angels and explore the various interactions with angels throughout the Bible and how we might entertain angels today.

### Supplies:

- Craft paper for angel paper chains (a host of angels)
- Bibles
- Black template for stained glass angel
- Clear contact paper - sized to the template, 1/child
- Squares of tissue paper
- Scissors
- Angel verse addresses on slips of paper for student reference e.g.: Acts 8:26

### Leader Preparation:

- Read the scripture for this lesson.
- Write the memory Bible verse on the whiteboard or index cards.
- Prepare templates and a sample ahead of time

### **Opening:**

Greet your students warmly, welcoming them to the art workshop. Introduce yourself and any other adults.

[Note: The Shepherd will quietly take attendance, etc. while you are starting your lesson.]

Say: Let's begin with prayer. Ask for any prayer requests. Ask if anyone would like to lead the group in prayer. Be prepared to say a prayer yourself, working in prayer requests. A suggestion: "Dear Lord, thank you for making sure that we all know the good news of your son Jesus. Thank you for the angels' message to all people who would listen. As we learn more about Jesus, help us to have open minds, hearts, and ears. May we never be afraid to share the good news with others. Amen."

### **Dig In:**

Ask what children know about angels? Where have they heard about them? What do they look like? What are they?

Explain that today we will be doing some research on angels and then making a stained glass angel to take home and a host of angels to put on the bulletin board.

### **Distribute Bibles.**

Have teams of students look up the following passages: (Please note: Student Bibles are NIV. The wording below is for your reference only and is KJV.) This will be good practice looking up verses - and might be hard. If students are working in pairs, give each pair, two verse to look up. If students are working individually, give them one verse. It might fun to see if students recall any of these stories? Verse in purple are more applicable and should be looked up first. Which verses have to do with the Christmas story?

**Hebrews 13:2** - Be not forgetful to entertain strangers: for thereby some have entertained angels unawares.

**Psalms 103:20** - Bless the LORD, ye his angels, that excel in strength, that do his commandments, hearkening unto the voice of his word.

**Acts 8:26** - And the angel of the Lord spake unto Philip, saying, Arise, and go toward the south unto the way that goeth down from Jerusalem unto Gaza, which is desert.

**Psalms 91:11** - For he shall give his angels charge over thee, to keep thee in all thy ways.

**Matthew 25:31** - When the Son of man shall come in his glory, and all the holy angels with him, then shall he sit upon the throne of his glory:

**Acts 5:19** - But the angel of the Lord by night opened the prison doors, and brought them forth, and said,

**Matthew 4:11** - Then the devil leaveth him, and, behold, angels came and ministered unto him.

**Matthew 1:20** - But while he thought on these things, behold, the angel of the Lord appeared unto him in a dream, saying, Joseph, thou son of David, fear not to take unto thee Mary thy wife: for that which is conceived in her is of the Holy Ghost.

**Luke 16:22** - And it came to pass, that the beggar died, and was carried by the angels into Abraham's bosom: the rich man also died, and was buried;

**Luke 15:10** - Likewise, I say unto you, there is joy in the presence of the angels of God over one sinner that repenteth.

**Matthew 2:13** - And when they were departed, behold, the angel of the Lord appeareth to Joseph in a dream, saying, Arise, and take the young child and his mother, and flee into Egypt, and be thou there until I bring thee word: for Herod will seek the young child to destroy him.

**Daniel 6:22** - My God hath sent his angel, and hath shut the lions' mouths, that they have not hurt me: forasmuch as before him innocency was found in me; and also before thee, O king, have I done no hurt.

**Luke 2:13** - And suddenly there was with the angel a multitude of the heavenly host praising God, and saying,

**Matthew 26:53** - Thinkest thou that I cannot now pray to my Father, and he shall presently give me more than twelve legions of angels?

**John 1:51** - And he saith unto him, Verily, verily, I say unto you, Hereafter ye shall see heaven open, and the angels of God ascending and descending upon the Son of man.

**Mark 1:13** - And he was there in the wilderness forty days, tempted of Satan; and was with the wild beasts; and the angels ministered unto him.

**Matthew 18:10** - Take heed that ye despise not one of these little ones; for I say unto you, That in heaven their angels do always behold the face of my Father which is in heaven.

**Genesis 3:24** - So he drove out the man; and he placed at the east of the garden of Eden Cherubims, and a flaming sword which turned every way, to keep the way of the tree of life.

**Acts 1:11** - Which also said, Ye men of Galilee, why stand ye gazing up into heaven? this same Jesus, which is taken up from you into heaven, shall so come in like manner as ye have seen him go into heaven.

*Luke Chapter 1*

Angels: God's Messengers Rotation  
Art Workshop

- <sup>26</sup> And in the sixth month the angel Gabriel was sent from God unto a city of Galilee, named Nazareth,
- <sup>27</sup> To a virgin espoused to a man whose name was Joseph, of the house of David; and the virgin's name [was] Mary.
- <sup>28</sup> And the angel came in unto her, and said, Hail, [thou that art] highly favoured, the Lord [is] with thee: blessed [art] thou among women.
- <sup>29</sup> And when she saw [him], she was troubled at his saying, and cast in her mind what manner of salutation this should be.
- <sup>30</sup> And the angel said unto her, Fear not, Mary: for thou hast found favour with God.
- <sup>31</sup> And, behold, thou shalt conceive in thy womb, and bring forth a son, and shalt call his name JESUS.
- <sup>32</sup> He shall be great, and shall be called the Son of the Highest: and the Lord God shall give unto him the throne of his father David:
- <sup>33</sup> And he shall reign over the house of Jacob for ever; and of his kingdom there shall be no end.
- <sup>34</sup> Then said Mary unto the angel, How shall this be, seeing I know not a man?
- <sup>35</sup> And the angel answered and said unto her, The Holy Ghost shall come upon thee, and the power of the Highest shall overshadow thee: therefore also that holy thing which shall be born of thee shall be called the Son of God.
- <sup>36</sup> And, behold, thy cousin Elisabeth, she hath also conceived a son in her old age: and this is the sixth month with her, who was called barren.
- <sup>37</sup> For with God nothing shall be impossible.
- <sup>38</sup> And Mary said, Behold the handmaid of the Lord; be it unto me according to thy word. And the angel departed from her.

**Luke 1:11-20** - And there appeared unto him an angel of the Lord standing on the right side of the altar of incense. ... announcing the expected birth of John the Baptist.

**Matthew 2:19** - But when Herod was dead, behold, an angel of the Lord appeareth in a dream to Joseph in Egypt,

**Exodus 14:19** - And the angel of God, which went before the camp of Israel, removed and went behind them; and the pillar of the cloud went from before their face, and stood behind them:

**Exodus 3:2** - And the angel of the LORD appeared unto him in a flame of fire out of the

midst of a bush: and he looked, and, behold, the bush burned with fire, and the bush [was] not consumed.

**Genesis 2:1** - Thus the heavens and the earth were finished, and all the host of them.

**John 20:12** - And seeth two angels in white sitting, the one at the head, and the other at the feet, where the body of Jesus had lain.

**1 Kings 19:5** - And as he lay and slept under a juniper tree, behold, then an angel touched him, and said unto him, Arise [and] eat.

**Exodus 23:20** - Behold, I send an Angel before thee, to keep thee in the way, and to bring thee into the place which I have prepared.

**Luke 2:9-11** - And, lo, the angel of the Lord came upon them, and the glory of the Lord shone round about them: and they were sore afraid. *(Read More...)*

Genesis 18:1-15 The Three visitors to Abram, two are angels...

Give directions for how to make the art project. As students are working continue the discussion about angels.

**Directions for Stained Glass Angels: (Take Home)**

- Using a template, cut a black outline for your stained glass angel out of black paper.
- Cut a matching piece of clear contact paper.
- Peel the contact paper.
- Lay the black outline on the sticky side of the contact paper.
- Cover the rest of the sticky area with squares of tissue paper.

**Directions for paper chain angels: (Hang on Hall Bulletin Board)**

- Accordion fold paper.
- Trace temple onto folded paper.
- Cut and unfold.

**Discussion:**

- Ask students what they have determined about angels from the readings they looked up. Try to draw out of the conversation that Angels are God's messengers.
- Are there verses from the Old Testament and the New Testament? (Yes)
- Read Hebrews 13:2 again. Maybe we encounter angels and don't even know it!
- Who do the angels in the Christmas story interact with? (Mary, Joseph, Shepherds)

Who are the messengers today of God's good news?

[Possible answers: friends or relatives or teachers, books, sermons, videos, etc.]

Do you suppose that you can be a messenger of God's good news?

How do you suppose this could happen?

[Possible answers: by talking to people about Jesus, by acting as Jesus taught us – loving our neighbor. If possible, share an experience from your life of a time when you were a messenger.]

**Closing:**

Say: This week, be watchful as the shepherds were, who viewed in amazement as the angels sang around them. Be on the look out for opportunities you have to act as a messenger of God's good news.

**If you have extra time:**

Using the memory verse written on the white board or index cards, have everyone read the verse. Then ask a student to erase or remove one word. Then have everyone read the verse filling in the missing word. Have students take turns erasing/removing words, each time reading the verse aloud as a group. You may consider that each time you read the verse you say it in a different way – whispering, while standing on one foot, slowly, quickly, etc.

**Resources:**

Faith Quest Lesson Sets at Kirk of Kildaire Presbyterian Church. "Shepherds and Angels (Revised): Bread of Life Café. 2005. <http://www.kirkofkildaire.org/quest/FQlessons/ShepAngRe...dBreadofLifeCafe.htm> (prayer)

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If you use this material, even in a modified form, please include the following reference:  
Hulbert, Carol. "Shepherds And Angels: Messengers of the Covenant – Video Workshop." Dec. 2007.  
Place URL where lesson found inside angle brackets<[www.rotation.org](http://www.rotation.org)>.