Lesson: Birth of Jesus Foretold to Mary (Luke 1:26-45)

The free lesson plan is about the God’s promises to Mary concerning the birth of Jesus. This story says some very important things about who Jesus will be. It also has a strong focus on the power of God. A key quote from this passage is “Nothing will be impossible for God.”

This lesson was first prepared with a broadly graded kids church in mind, but you could easily adapt it for use in Sunday School or other ministry settings. The items requires are very simple and should be easy to prepare. Many churches have already used this as a Christmas Bible lesson for their kids.

**Bible Passage:** Luke 1:26-45  
**Bible Story Title:** The Birth of Jesus Foretold  
**Target Age Group:** Kindergarten – 5th Grade

**Target Time Frame:** 25 minutes  
**Original Teaching Context:** Children’s Church

**Learning Objectives:** After this lesson children will demonstrate...

1. Knowledge of the key people and events in this passage ... by retelling the story back to the teacher at the end of the session.
2. Understanding of what is special about Jesus ... by explaining in their own words two very special things they learned about Jesus from this story.
3. Understanding that “Nothing will be impossible for God”... by identifying real life situations where they could apply this principle to trust in God.

**Target Age:** Kindergarten – 5th

**Items Needed:**

- Marked Bible: Read Luke 1:26-45. Prepare the copy in advance by highlighting the significant points to emphasize and underlining items that will need additional explanation.
• Visual Aids: Pictures of Joseph, Mary, Gabriel, Zechariah, and Elizabeth.
• Papers: Write the following statements on individual sheets of paper. Tape them to
  the wall behind where you will be teaching:
  ◦ Can Elizabeth have a baby when she is very old?
  ◦ Can Jesus be born without a human father?
  ◦ A person is very sick and the doctors don’t know how to help.
  ◦ Someone’s dad needs a new job.
  ◦ A child does not have any friends at school.
  ◦ Parents want to get divorced.
  ◦ A friend does not want to follow Jesus.
  ◦ A war in Iraq that no one knows how to win.

Teaching Plan: Birth of Jesus Foretold

Hook:

Share a personal story about a time when you learned to trust God in a difficult situation.
Example: I had to trust God when I was looking for a job. Explain to the children that our
story today will show that nothing is too hard for God.

Book:

Use pictures to introduce only the names of the key people in the story. Ask the children to
listen carefully so they can tell you more about these people after the story: Joseph, Mary,
Gabriel, Zechariah, and Elizabeth. Show the pictures but only say the names of the person
for now.

Before the story ask the children to explain what a “King” does. Then ask them to explain
what a “Son” does. Ask them to listen carefully to the story to see how these two words are
used to tell us why Jesus is very special.

Read (and summarize) Luke 1:26-45. (Read with emotion and pause often to engage the
children with the reading,) During the telling of the story reinforce the two special things
about Jesus:

1. He is God’s own Son
2. He is the Forever King promised in the OT

After the story show the pictures the children and ask for the person’s name and what they
learned about them from the story.

Ask the group to retell the story to the teacher at the end of the presentation. Use the
pictures to prompt them. “OK, good and what happened next?“
Optional: If time permits this can be acted out by calling on five volunteers: Gabriel, Joseph, Mary, Zechariah, and Elizabeth.

Ask for volunteers to explain in their own words two very special things they learned about Jesus from this story.

**Look:**
Point to the papers with the “situation statements” that you taped to the wall. Remind the children “Nothing will be impossible with God.” Ask them to think about which situation will be too hard for God. Read the statements.

Call on a child to come forward and remove one “situation statement” that is not too hard for God. Repeat with additional children until all the statements are gone. Then ask the children to repeat with you “Nothing will be impossible with God.”

**Took:**

Ask for volunteers to identify real life situations where they could apply this principle “Nothing will be impossible with God.”

**Closing:** Lead the children in prayer

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Gives Us
Hope

Mandy Groce '12

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There are many marvelous variations possible when considering crafts that relate to angels. We might not know exactly what angels look like, but the traditional notion of white winged creatures lend themselves to fun creative creations.

We most notably associate the celestial messengers with Christmas, due to the proclamation of Christ’s birth. In this Gospel lesson, an angel visits Mary to announce to her that she will be the chosen mother of Jesus. These crafts celebrate that annunciation with a few fun and simple versions of angels. These can be made into puppets, pins, ornaments, or simple decorations. Have fun and “take flight!”

Bible Verses or Craft Captions to Consider... (Main Text: Luke 1:36-48)

> For nothing will be impossible with God.  
> -Luke 1:37

> And Mary said, “Behold, I am the servant of the Lord; let it be to me according to your word.”  
> -Luke 1:38

> Angels Share Good News! Glory to God in the Highest!  
> Just believe...God provides great messages!  
> Trust and obey...God can do the impossible!

**Bible Passage:** Luke 1:26-38

- Don’t miss the demonstration of this children’s sermon on our [YouTube channel](https://www.youtube.com)
- You can also watch the Bible craft for this passage
- See our full [Sunday School Lesson on Luke 1:26-38](https://www.rfour.org)
- Compare “Mary Says Yes to God” Children’s Sermon on rfour.org
Craft one: “Angel cup ornament”

You will need:

- Construction paper or card stock
- Markers, stickers, or other decorating materials
- String, yarn, or pipe cleaner
- Scissors
- Coffee filters and/or cupcake liners
- Glue or tape
- Google eyes, pipe cleaners (optional)
- Popsicle sticks (optional)

Procedure:

1. Decorate the cup as desired, drawing or gluing on eyes, mouth, or sticker elements.

2. Use a folded cupcake liner or coffee filter as “wings”, and tape or glue them behind the cup.

3. Attach a pipe cleaner halo. Add a string if you’d like to let your angel hang as a decoration; or place a popsicle stick inside the cup if you prefer your angel to be a puppet.
Craft Two: “Angel pin”

You will need:
- Google eyes
- Popsicle sticks or clothespins
- Markers or crayons
- Glue and/or tape
- Safety pins
- Scissors
- Coffee filters or cupcake liners
- Pipe cleaners, string, or ribbon

Procedure:
1. Choose a clothespin, popsicle stick, or other wooden piece as the base of your angel (or use multiple elements and make a whole Heavenly host!).
2. Add drawn or glued facial elements to your wooden angels.
3. Use coffee filters or cupcake liners (or lace doilies) as wings, and attach them behind the angel bodies with tape or glue.
4. Give your angel(s) halos and string, if you’d like to hang them up.
5. Tape or glue a safety pin to the back of the bodies and make yourself a wearable pin!
Craft Three: “Angel Plate”

You will need:

- Paper plate of any size
- Paper (construction) (optional)
- Scissors
- Coffee filters
- Glue or tape
- Decorative supplies (stickers, eyes, glitter, etc.)
- Crayons or markers
- String or ribbon (if desired to hang)

Procedure:
1. Decorate paper plate with “Angelic” facial features like a drawn mouth, google eyes, button nose, etc. Add ribbon or yarn hair if desired.
2. Use lace, coffee filters, or doilies for wings, attaching them behind the plate with glue or tape.
3. Affix a string or pipe cleaner halo to the top of the plate.
4. Add verses or captions. Place a popsicle stick behind the plate if you’d like to make a puppet or mask; or merely hang as a decoration.
This message was prepared by Kristin Schmidt, who serves at the Epiphany Lutheran Church in Castle Rock, CO.

She has shared her teaching gifts through Ministry-To-Children since 2014 and now serves as our lead curriculum writer.

Kristin has a professional background in elementary and preschool education. A graduate of Biola University, she holds a Master of Education and will receive the Master of Theology degree from Concordia University, Irvine, California, in May 2020. Kristin grew up in southern California and lived the past 10 years in Georgia. She is a long-distance runner and voracious reader.

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