

Christmas Schools' Week Assemblies 2020

Day 2

The Message of the Angels: Get Ready for some Great News!

Read

Luke chapter 1 verse 19	Luke chapter 1 verses 3-6 and 11
<p>¹⁹ "I am Gabriel," the angel answered. "I stand in the presence of God, who sent me to speak to you and tell you this good news."</p>	<p>³ And so your Excellency, because I have carefully studied all these matters from their beginning, I thought it would be good to write an orderly account for you. ⁴ I do this so that you will know the full truth about everything which you have been taught. ⁵ During the time when Herod was king of Judea, there was a priest named Zechariah, who belonged to a priestly order of Abijah. His wife's name was Elizabeth; she also belonged to a priestly family. ⁶ They both lived good lives in God's sight and obeyed fully all the Lord's laws and commands.</p> <p>¹¹ An angel of the Lord appeared to him, standing on the right of the altar where the incense was burnt.</p>

Watch

Day 2 - The message of the Angels

<https://youtu.be/vMWanvF0m8s>

Understand

Suitable for all

Discuss together: What have you found out about angels today? What do you think angels are like? How would you feel if you met one?

Teaching points:

- The Bible says that angels are God's messengers, sent to help people.
- The Bible says there are thousands and thousands of angels, whole armies in fact.
- There are two named angels in the Bible: Gabriel and Archangel Michael. Traditional stories also include another Archangel called Raphael.
- Angels' names end in '-el' which is the Biblical name (in Hebrew) for God.

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Pray

Perhaps a child would like to say or write a prayer for you all to use, or you could use ours, which today is taken from Zechariah's prayer in Luke, chapter 1 verse 67 onwards:

"Praise the Lord ... he has sent us a Mighty Saviour ... just as he promised ... we have been rescued so we can serve God without fear ... for as long as we live. Because of God's mercy the morning light is about to break on us, to give light to those who sit in darkness and to guide us to the path of peace."
Amen

Explore

The names of Jesus

- **Suitable for all**

Did you spot any more names of Jesus which you could add to the bauble or word cloud which you started yesterday? (*the rescuer, mighty saviour*)

What does an angel look like?

- **Suitable for all**

Draw a picture of what you imagine an angel might look like. (Matthew chapter 18, verse 10 suggests that we have guardian angels sent by God to look after us). Will your angel look like the ones we see on Christmas cards, dressed in white, with wings and feathers? Or perhaps yours will be brightly coloured, or like 'flames of fire' (the Bible again, Hebrews chapter 1, verse 7). Have a look at how angels are depicted in works of art. Could your angel be more like a superhero? What will you call your angel? Can you think of a name which ends with '-el'?

- **Challenge**

Can you write a short description of your angel? Think about how you would feel if you were visited by an angel.

Could you be someone's angel?

There are many ways we can send messages today. How many can you think of? As you know, angels are God's messengers. Could you send a message to someone who is perhaps feeling sad or lonely at the moment? See if you can find time to make them a card, write a letter, send a text or even call them. You will make their day!