

Mary is going to have a special baby

Luke 1:26-56



FOR YOU

Mary was just an ordinary teenage girl in a very ordinary village. God knew that she was faithful and had a special job for her to do. When the angel arrived with God's message for her she was surprised that she of all the women in Israel had been chosen to be the mother of Jesus and realised just how special she was. The Bible records her song of praise where she reminds herself that although God was holy he readily forgave people who were truly sorry, showing them his mercy. Her song went on to say how God had always cared about the weak and the humble and was not really keen on kings and other powerful people who often thought they were greater than God. Right at the end of her hymn to God she looks back on way that God had been with Abraham's descendants all through their history, both in good times and bad times too. God had promised a saviour to Abraham and now it was all coming true, just as God had promised.

STORY



Ready-steady

Show everyone lots of examples of messages—postcards, letters, bills, invitations, birthday cards, etc.

We send messages in lots of different ways. God chose a very special way to give Mary the message in today's story



Read-tell

Read 'A message for Mary' (p120) and then 'Mary's Song (p122). You could use a puppet for Mary and a torch to represent the angel or show a selection of pictures from <https://www.freebibleimages.org/illustrations/dm-mary-elizabeth/>



Wonder together

*I wonder how Mary felt when she first saw the angel?
I wonder what I would do if an angel appeared in my house?*



Additional ide-

Read 'A Special Message' (p50) in Bob Hartman's 'Play along Bible'

MAKE & PLAY



- Make an angel from a paper plate e.g. <https://www.instructables.com/Fast-and-Easy-Paper-Angel/>
- Play different versions of Mary's song and encourage everyone to dance and wave ribbons along to it
- Put some houses like the one that Mary lived in on the Christmas Mural background
- Ask the children to make yellow and gold hand prints with paint that you will make into angel wings for the shepherds section of the Christmas Mural background

PRAY

Sing this adaptation of Mary's song to the tune of Good King Wenceslas

*I so glad that God loves me!
Every day I'll praise him.
When friends see what he had done,
They will say 'Amazing!'
He takes care of those in need,
Helps all those who love him.
He is great and he is good,
There's no one above him.*

SONGS

- My God is so big, so strong and so mighty
- My God is so big, and I am so small
- Bigger than big

@HOME

Give everyone a copy of the Mary's song prayer to sing at home

Sing this adaptation of Mary's song to the tune of Good King Wenceslas

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