Preschool–Grade 6

The Angel Gabriel Visits Mary

Sunday School Lesson for Kindergarten to 2nd Grade, 45 minutes

Main point: Mary trusted God's word. Nothing is impossible with God, so we can trust Him too.
Bible passage: Luke 1:26–38. Read it before class.
Memory verse: "And, behold, thou shalt conceive in thy womb, and bring forth a son, and shalt call his name JESUS." *Luke 1:31 (KJV)*
You need: a Bible, a folded paper note, 6 sheets of paper, a marker, tape, crayons, and one take-home sheet for each child.
Before class: write the memory verse on the 6 sheets of paper (see part 4). On the note, write: "Stand up and say, 'Yes, I will!'" Put a bookmark in your Bible at Luke 1:26.

1. Opening game: Special Message (5 minutes)

Kids sit in a circle. Give the folded note to one child and say, "This is a special message from the teacher. Pass it carefully around the circle to the last person." The last child opens it, and you read it out loud together. Everyone stands up and says, "Yes, I will!" Ask: *Who sent the message? Did you do what it said?* Say: "Today God sends a very special message to a young woman named Mary. Let's see what she says."

2. Bible story: Mary Says Yes to God (10 minutes)

Hold up your Bible open to Luke 1, so the kids can see the story comes from God's Word. Tell it in your own words:

A long time ago, God sent an angel named **Gabriel** to a town called **Nazareth**, in a land called Galilee (Luke 1:26). God sent Gabriel to a young woman named **Mary**. Mary was not married yet. She was **espoused**, which means promised in marriage, to a man named **Joseph**. Joseph came from the family of King David (1:27).

The angel came in to Mary and said, "Hail, thou that art highly favoured, the Lord is with thee" (1:28). **Hail** means hello. **Highly favoured** means God had been very kind to her. Mary was **troubled**, which means upset and confused. She wondered what this greeting meant (1:29).

The angel said, "Fear not, Mary." That means don't be afraid. "Thou hast found favour with God" (1:30). Then Gabriel told her wonderful news: Mary would have a baby boy, and she would name Him **JESUS** (1:31)! He would be great, and He would be called the Son of the Highest. **The Highest** means God. His kingdom would never end (1:32–33).

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The story continues: Mary asked, "How shall this be?" She was not married (1:34). Gabriel answered that the **Holy Ghost**, God's own Spirit, would come upon her, and the power of God would be over her. God Himself would do it. So the holy baby would be called the **Son of God** (1:35). That means Jesus is God who came to earth as a baby (1 Timothy 3:16).

Then Gabriel told Mary more good news. Her cousin **Elisabeth** was old, and she had never been able to have a baby. But now Elisabeth was going to have a baby too (1:36)! **Read Luke 1:37 from your Bible:** "For with God nothing shall be impossible." Say: "That means there is nothing God can't do!"

What would Mary say? Mary said, "Behold the handmaid of the Lord; be it unto me according to thy word" (1:38). A **handmaid** is a servant girl. Mary was saying, "I belong to God. Let it happen just like you said." Mary trusted God! Then the angel left (1:38).

3. Questions to ask (5 minutes)

1. Who did God send to Mary? *(The angel Gabriel, Luke 1:26)*
2. What town did Mary live in? *(Nazareth, 1:26)*
3. What did the angel say first when Mary was troubled? *("Fear not, Mary," 1:30)*
4. What name did God choose for Mary's baby? *(JESUS, 1:31)*
5. What did Mary say to the angel? *("Behold the handmaid of the Lord; be it unto me according to thy word," 1:38)*

4. Memory verse: Verse in Order (5 minutes)

Tape the 6 sheets up in order: *And, behold, / thou shalt conceive / in thy womb, / and bring forth a son, / and shalt call / his name JESUS. Luke 1:31.* Explain the old words: **behold** means look, **thou shalt** means you will, **conceive in thy womb** means a baby will start to grow inside you (the **womb** is the place inside a mother where a baby grows), and **bring forth a son** means have a baby boy. Read the verse together. Then give the 6 sheets to 6 kids, mix them up, and let the class put them back in order. Read it again. Do it until everyone can say it.

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5. What this means for us (5 minutes)

Say: "Mary trusted God's word, and God kept His promise. Baby Jesus was born! God loves you very much. But everyone has done wrong things. The Bible calls that sin: 'For all have sinned, and come short of the glory of God' (Romans 3:23, KJV). That means none of us is as good as God. Jesus is God who came to earth as a man (1 Timothy 3:16). Jesus died for our sins, He was buried, and He rose again (1 Corinthians 15:3–4)! The Bible tells us how to obey the gospel, the good news about Jesus: 'Repent, and be baptized every one of you in the name of Jesus Christ for the remission of sins, and ye shall receive the gift of the Holy Ghost.' (Acts 2:38, KJV) To **repent** means we are sorry for our sin and we turn away from it. We are **baptized**, buried all the way under the water, in Jesus' name, so our sins are washed away (Romans 6:4; Acts 22:16). **Remission** means God takes our sins away. And God fills us with the **Holy Ghost**, His own Spirit, and we speak in other tongues, words God gives us, just like the believers did in the Bible (Acts 2:4)."

Pray with the kids, and encourage them to talk with their parents and pastor about being baptized in Jesus' name and filled with the Holy Ghost. Never pressure a child.

This week: when God's Word or a grown-up asks you to do something good, say "Yes!" like Mary did. When something feels too hard, remember: "With God nothing shall be impossible."

6. Activity (10–15 minutes)

Choose one: the **angel Gabriel visits Mary word search** (vbshq.com/puzzles/gabriel-visits-mary-word-search), crossword (vbshq.com/puzzles/gabriel-visits-mary-crossword), maze (vbshq.com/puzzles/gabriel-visits-mary-maze), the coloring page or craft (vbshq.com/bible-stories/gabriel-visits-mary), or **Yes, Lord!:** read ways kids can obey God this week ("Help at home without being asked." "Tell the truth." "Pray before bed." "Be kind to someone who is left out."). After each one, kids jump up and say, "Yes, Lord!" Then let a few kids name one more way.

7. Prayer

"Dear God, thank You for sending Jesus. Nothing is impossible for You. Help us trust Your Word and say yes to You, like Mary did. In Jesus' name, amen."

If a child asks how Mary could have a baby before she was married: answer simply. The angel said the Holy Ghost would come upon her and the power of the Highest would be over her (Luke 1:35). God did it Himself, in a way only God can do. "With God nothing shall be impossible" (1:37).

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