



December 13, 2020
An Angel Appears to Joseph in a Dream!
Matthew 1:18-25

In last week's lesson, we saw how God used a special messenger, called an angel, to speak to Mary about His plan for her to be the mother of our Savior, Jesus. In this week's lesson, we will see how God also used an angel to bring a special message to Joseph, Mary's future husband, in a dream. When Joseph woke up from his dream, he knew the angel's message had come from God. God used the angel to help put Joseph on a different path than he would have taken on his own. This path took him to Bethlehem where our Savior, Jesus, was born. A little later in Joseph's life, God used an angel again to give Joseph another message to help Joseph keep his family safe. Angels are God's special messengers. They watch over us and help keep us safe.

Watch this video about Joseph's dream and the angel who appeared to bring Joseph a message from God:

<https://youtu.be/NLk1Gw8wZ8g>

What different choices did Joseph make after hearing the angel's message? Do you think he would have taken Mary for his wife if the angel had not spoken to him? Do you think he and Mary would have traveled to Bethlehem together, the place where Jesus was born?

Aren't you glad God helped Joseph understand God's plan through the angel's message? How did the angel's reminder of "Immanuel", which means, "God With Us" help make listening to God easier? How does knowing God is with you help you today?

Read Matthew 2:13-15

What message did God give to Joseph when he sent an angel to him in a dream the second time? Where was he to go and how did this help Joseph keep Mary and baby Jesus safe?

Look up the verses below and talk about the different ways God uses angels in our lives:

Psalm 91:11

Psalm 103:20-21

Here are two more examples of how God uses angels to help us:

They take care of us when we are tempted by the devil. (Matthew 4:10-11)

They strengthen us when we pray. (Luke 22:42-43)

Attached you will find some coloring sheets, a maze, and instructions for an angel craft made from a toilet paper tube. Choose the activities you like best or do them all!

Bonus:

If you have time this week, look up this other cool story about an angel in the Bible:

God sends an angel to rescue Peter when he is in prison. Acts 12:7-11

Angels are God's awesome helpers! Don't forget about these invisible, but very real, creatures that God uses in our lives every day!

Prayer:

Dear God,

Thank you for creating angels to watch over us, help us, and bring us special messages from you! Thank you for the most important message they have ever delivered: the message of the birth of Your Son, our Savior, Jesus. In His name we pray. Amen.