

Angels in the Bible Family Advent Activities

Read the
stories

Do the
activities

Say the
prayers



**It's Advent... Jesus Is Coming...
So, Let's Get Ready...**

We have four weeks in Advent to prepare to welcome Jesus.

This guide can help. It's filled with Scripture, stories, facts, puzzles, brain teasers, and prayers.

All of these focus on the part the angels played in this holy event.

So, plan to gather with your family one night every week for prayer, reflection, and fun. You'll need your *Angels in the Bible Storybook*, enough copies of this guide for everyone, a pencil, some crayons, scissors, and a sincere wish to get your heart ready to receive the greatest gift God ever gave the world: His Son and our Savior.

Week One of Advent

A Surprise Visitor

Luke 1:26-38

Read the Story

Go to pages 119 to 124 in your *Angels in the Bible Storybook*. Read the story out loud. Then, fill in the blanks.

God sent an angel to a girl called _____ . The name of the angel was _____ .

The angel told the girl she would have a _____ . He told her to name the child _____ .

He told her "Don't worry. God will send the _____ ." He told her the baby would

be _____ . Mary said: "_____ ."

Find the Angels

There are angels in the picture below. See how many you can find.



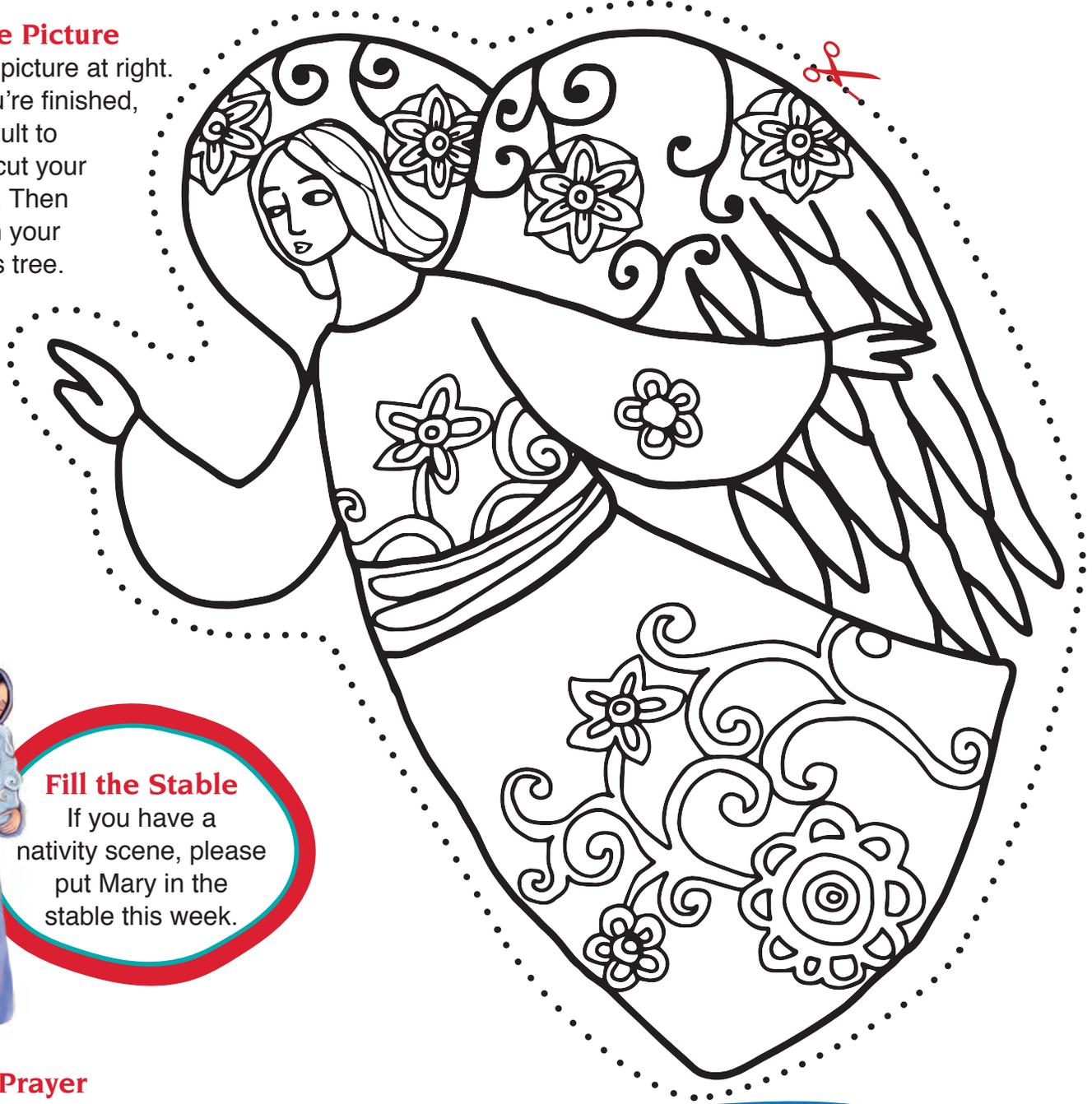
Think/Talk about This

Circle the words that describe how you would feel if an angel suddenly appeared out of nowhere and called you by name:

surprised frightened happy sad angry excited silly itchy proud

Color the Picture

Color the picture at right. When you're finished, ask an adult to help you cut your angel out. Then hang it on your Christmas tree.



Fill the Stable

If you have a nativity scene, please put Mary in the stable this week.

Say the Prayer

Heavenly Father,
Of all the women in the world, you chose Mary to be the Mother of your Son, Jesus. That's because she was pure, unselfish, and good. What's more, she loved you with all her heart. And she put your wishes above her own. I want to be like Mary. So, during this Advent time particularly, help me...to put You first, my neighbor next, and myself last. In Jesus's name, I pray. Amen.

Week Two of Advent

Telling Joseph about Jesus

Matthew 1:18-24

Read the Story

Go to pages 125 to 129 in your *Angels in the Bible Storybook*. Read the story out loud. Then, fill in the blanks.

A magnificent-looking _____ appeared to Joseph in a dream. “God has chosen Mary to be the mother of his _____. He loves her *that* much. Mary is pregnant by the Holy Spirit. This is all part of _____ plan. God wants you to call him _____.

Spot the Difference

Look at Picture 1 and Picture 2. Can you spot six differences in Picture 2?



Think/Talk about This

Joseph didn't understand God's plans for Mary. Yet when the angel appeared with God's message, “Don't be afraid to marry Mary,” Joseph didn't ask any questions. He obeyed. Name one time you didn't understand God's plans for you, but trusted him anyway.

Solve the Puzzle

See how fast you can unscramble the words below. Hint: they are all part of the Christmas story.

ohicrofgneals _____

rknepiene _____

hspdehsre _____

ysJbuesaB _____

osJpeh _____

brlaGie _____

Say the Prayer

Fill the Stable

If you have a nativity scene, please put Joseph in the stable this week.



Dearest God,

Your Word says, "I know the plans I have for you," announces the Lord. "I want you to enjoy success. I do not plan to harm you. I will give you hope for the years to come." (Jeremiah 29:11 NIV). Help me remember that when, like Joseph, I don't understand something that's going on in my life. Help me to act like Joseph, and trust you with all my heart.

Amen.

Week Three of Advent

Angels Tell Shepherds the Good News

Luke 2:1-20

Read the Story

Go to pages 130 to 135 in your *Angels in the Bible Storybook*. Read the story out loud. Then, fill in the blanks.

“We have to go to _____ to be counted,” Joseph said. When they arrived, _____ said to one _____, “My wife is having a baby. We need a place to stay. “I have a _____ out back,” the man said. At the same time, not far away, _____ saw a _____ up in the sky. “Don’t be afraid. I’m here to give you a message,” the _____ said.

Connect the Dots

See what happens when you connect the dots.



Think/Talk about This

At first, the shepherds saw one angel. Then some of the heavenly host of angels appeared. They are part of the army of angels who praise God. What do you think they looked like? How do you think they sounded? (Hint: Look on the bottom of page 137 of your *Angels in the Bible Storybook*.)

Solve the Puzzle

Using these letters from the alphabet, write down a word from the Christmas story. Then say the word in a sentence out loud: For example, "A" is for angel. The angel Gabriel appeared to Mary. Now you try it: (Hint: There may be more than one word for some letters.)

B _____ S _____

i _____ m _____

d _____ J _____



Say the Prayer

Dear Lord,
How excited and happy the shepherds must have felt when your angels told them the good news: "Jesus, your Savior, is born." Fill us with the same joy and anticipation as we once again, look forward to welcoming your Son into our hearts and our lives. In Jesus's name, we pray.
Amen.

Week Four of Advent

Jesus, the Savior, Is Here!

Luke 2:1-20

Read the Story

Go to pages 134 to 137 in your *Angels in the Bible Storybook*. Read the story out loud. Then, fill in the blanks.

“Jesus, the _____ is here!” said the _____. “He was born a few hours ago in _____. He’s sleeping in a _____.” So the shepherds ran down the hill and into the _____. The shepherds found the baby lying in the _____. “His name is _____,” Mary told them. Meanwhile, the angels sang, “Glory to God in the highest. And _____ on _____ to all good men.”

A-mazing Maze

Start at the beginning and help the boy shepherd find his way to the stable to give his gift to Baby Jesus.

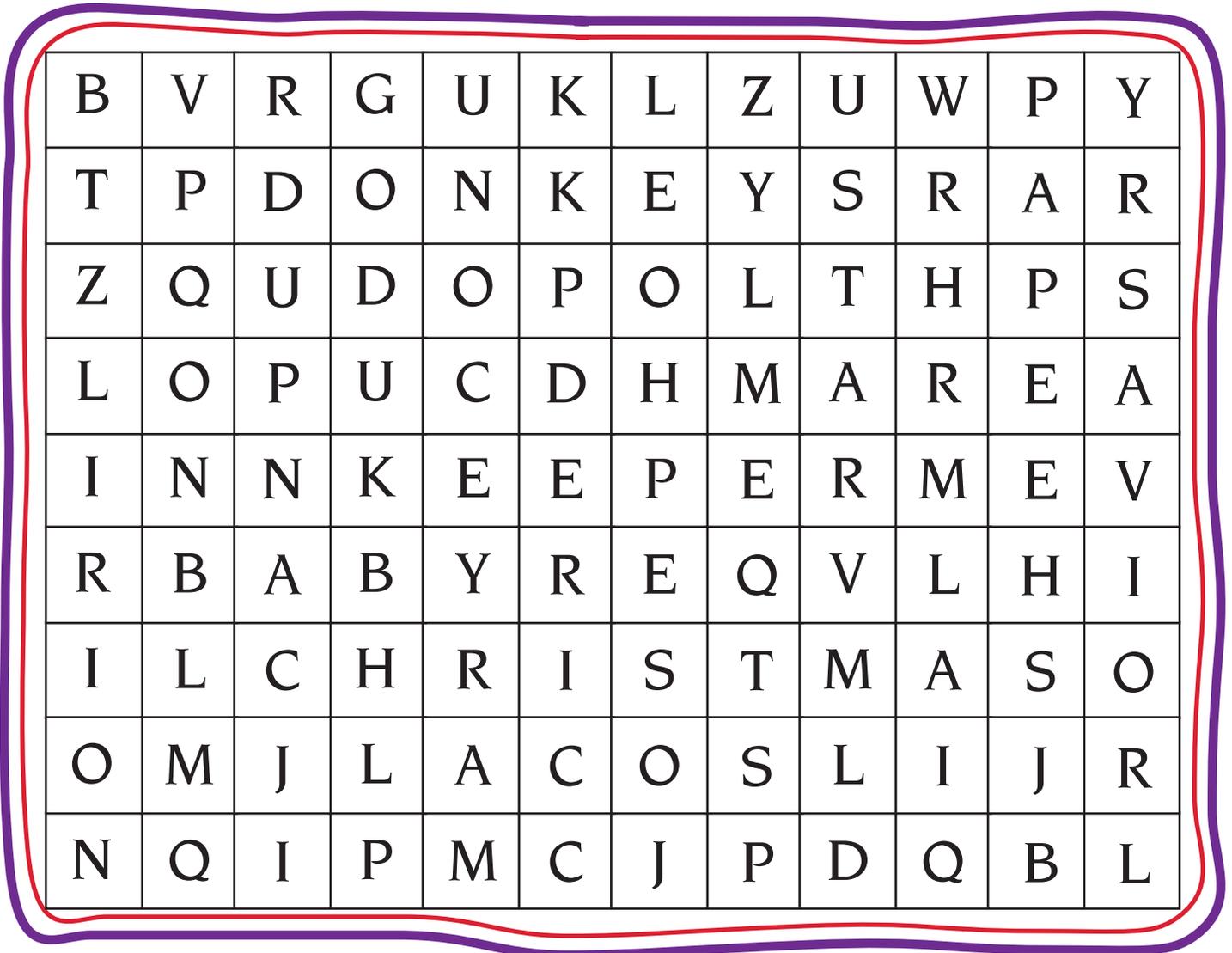


Think/Talk about This

When Jesus was born, a sky-full of angels sang praises to God. The Bible says one angel’s voice sounded like a large crowd. Think, then, how this huge group must have sounded. Do you know any
7 praise songs you can sing to welcome Jesus? Can you raise your voice on high like the angels did?

Word Search

Find these words: GOD, CHRISTMAS, SAVIOR, HAY, INNKEEPER, SHEEP, BABY, DONKEY, JOSEPH, STAR. (Hint: look in all directions.)



Say the Prayer

Fill the Stable

If you have a nativity scene, please put the Baby Jesus in the stable this week.



Dearest God,

We cannot thank you enough for sending us the most precious gift ever: Your Son Jesus to be our Savior. We've waited eagerly and prepared ourselves for this day. Now that it is here, we are filled with love, joy, and hope. Thank you, Heavenly Father, for this wonderful Christmas gift. Amen.

Activity Answers

Page 1

God sent an angel to a girl called **Mary**. The name of the angel was **Gabriel**. The angel told the girl she would have a **baby**. He told her to name the child **Jesus**. He told her "Don't worry. God will send the **Holy Spirit**." He told her the baby would be **God's Son**. Mary said "I am God's humble servant."



There are 13 angels in the picture.

Think/Talk about This

Circle the words that describe how you would feel if an angel suddenly appeared out of nowhere and called you by name: surprised / frightened / happy / sad / angry / excited / silly / itchy / proud

Page 3

A magnificent-looking **angel** appeared to Joseph in a dream. "God has chosen Mary to be the mother of his **Only Son**. He loves her *that* much. Mary is pregnant by the Holy Spirit. This is all part of **God's** plan. God wants you to call him **Jesus**."



Page 4

ohicrfgneals c h o i r o f a n g e l s
 rknepiene i n n k e e p e r
 hspdehsre s h e p h e r d s
 ysJbuesaB B a b y J e s u s
 osJpeh J o s e p h
 brlaGie G a b r i e l

Page 5

"We have to go to **Bethlehem** to be counted," Joseph said. When they arrived, **Joseph** said to one **innkeeper**, "My wife is having a baby. We need a place to stay. "I have a **barn** out back," the man said. At the same time, not far away, **sheperds** saw a **FLASH** up in the sky. "Don't be afraid. I'm here to give you a message," the **angel** said.



Page 6

B Bethlehem s shepherds
 i innkeeper m manger
 d donkey j Jesus

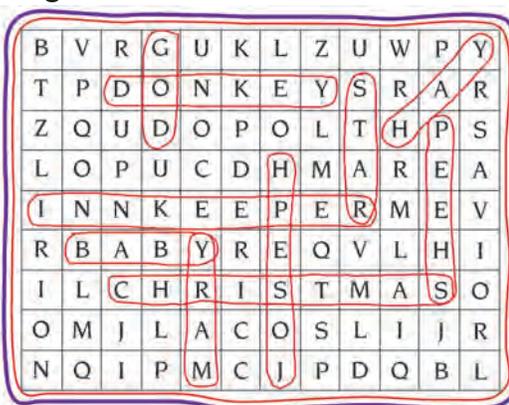
- B Joseph told Mary they had to go to **Bethlehem** to be counted.
- i The **innkeeper** let Mary and Joseph use his barn.
- d Joseph helped Mary on to their **donkey**.
- s The **shepherds** were taking care of their sheep.
- m Jesus was lying in a **manger**.
- J Mary told the shepherds her baby's name was **Jesus**.

Page 7

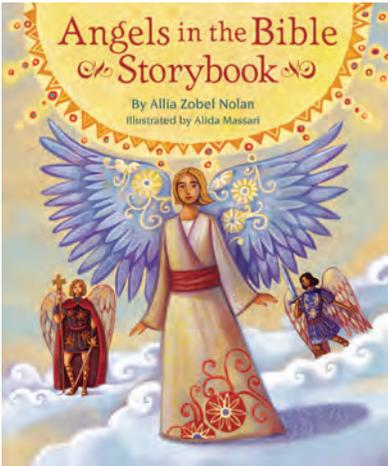
"Jesus, the **Savior** is here!," said the **angel**. "He was born a few hours ago in **Bethlehem**. He's sleeping in a **manger**." So the shepherds ran down the hill and into the **town**. The shepherds found the baby lying in the **hay**. "His name is **Jesus**," Mary told them. Meanwhile, the angels sang, "Glory to God in the highest. And **peace** on **earth** to all good men."



Page 8



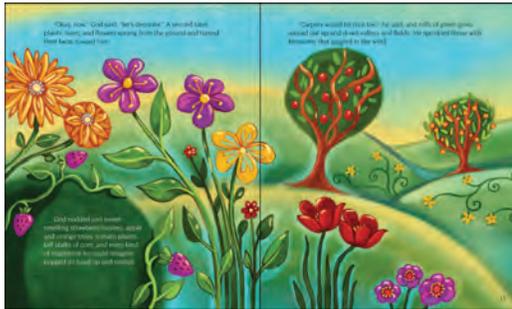
About the Book



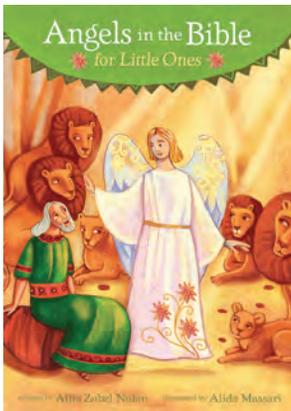
Angels in the Bible Storybook

Where were the angels when God created the world? Why did an angel force a donkey off a road? Who did the angels get out of jail twice?

Young readers will find answers to these and other questions in this exciting storybook, written by bestselling author Allia Zobel Nolan with illustrations by Alida Massari. *Angels in the Bible Storybook* gives children a fascinating look into how God's powerful behind-the-scenes helpers interacted with Bible greats from Abraham, Lot, and Gideon to Zechariah, Mary, and Jesus himself, acting as messengers, protectors, warriors, and more.



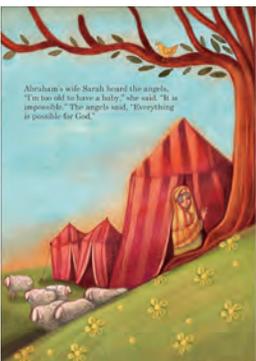
Also Available for Younger Children



Angels in the Bible for Little Ones

Angels in the Bible for Little Ones gives children a fascinating look into how powerful behind-the-scenes helpers interacted with Bible greats such as Abraham, Daniel, and Mary, acting as messengers, protectors, warriors, and more. This padded cover board book, written by bestselling author Allia Zobel Nolan and illustrated by Alida Massari, brings eight stories from the Bible to life for little ones.

On Sale: February 7, 2017
Available for PreOrder: November 9, 2016





Allia Zobel Nolan
Author

Allia Zobel Nolan is an internationally-published author of over 200 children's titles and adult trade titles. Her books reflect her two main passions, God and cats. Zobel Nolan lives and writes in Connecticut with her husband, Desmond Nolan and their two feline children.



Alida Massari
Illustrator

Alida Massari is an Italian artist specializing in illustrations for children. She has illustrated many books, collaborating with Italian, English, German, and American publishers. Her books have been translated in numerous countries. Massari was born in Rome where she studied art and illustration. Now she lives in a little Etruscan town, with her husband and daughter, Diana.