



Rescuer - Lesson I

2s and 3s

Memory Verse: “God loved the world so much that he gave his one and only Son. Any one who believes in him will not die but will have eternal life.” John 3:16 (NIRV)

Key Point: God sent his Son, Jesus, to rescue us from our sin!

Bible Verse: Luke 1:26–38, Matthew 1:18–25

SCHEDULE:

Center Time

around 10 minutes

Help the individuals transition by actively engaging them from the beginning. Try setting up centers to color, play with blocks and Play-Doh, or do puzzles.

Memory Verse

Use the Memory Verse page and images to go over the memory verse by placing them in the correct order on the board (personal or pocket chart).

Coloring Sheet

Big Group Time

Lesson

- Read through the lesson below. For a shortened version, just read the bolded words.
- Within the lesson, there are numbers that correspond to the story point pictures. For example, (1) corresponds to the first story point and picture, and so on.

- Allow individuals to place pictures on the board (personal or pocket chart) in sequential order.
- Key Point
- Use the review questions to check for understanding.

Repeat Key Point & Memory Verse

Use the activities below for repetition of the story points, key points, and memory verse.

- Act out the Story.
- Bean Bag Toss: restate part of the story, memory verse, or key point when tossing.

Activity

5-Finger Gospel (Optional)

LESSON:

Christmas is coming up soon, and it is a very special holiday! Our lessons over the next few weeks are about God sending his Son, Jesus, to earth. He came to rescue us from our sinful ways and lead us back to himself. **This is the story of Christmas** (1) and what Christmas is all about.

Starting back with Adam and Eve, the first two people God created, **all people** throughout the Bible **have sinned** (2). **Sin causes us to be separated from God** (3). Sin is anything that we do or think that is not pleasing to God. Sins are things like not obeying parents, hurting someone, thinking unkind thoughts about another person, longing for something that someone else has, and many more things.

Even **from the beginning, God planned** a way **to rescue us from being separated from him** (4). **He planned to send his own Son to pay for our sins** (5)! That is wonderful news, isn't it?

God chooses a Jewish girl named **Mary to be the mother of Jesus** (6). **God sends the angel Gabriel to tell Mary that God has chosen her.** When Gabriel goes to see Mary, he says, "Do not be afraid, Mary, because you have pleased God, and he has chosen you **to be the mother of his Son** (7), Jesus. Jesus will be great and he will be called the Son of the Highest."

At first, Mary doesn't understand. You see, Mary doesn't understand **because she isn't married yet, but she is going to marry** a man named **Joseph** (8). She wants to know how this could happen. **Gabriel tells her that the Holy Spirit will put baby Jesus inside of her** (9), and the baby she has will be the Son of God! Wow, that is amazing! Nothing like that had ever happened before and has not happened since. **Mary tells the angel** she belongs to God, and **she will do whatever God wants her to do.** **And then she worships God** (10). She is very glad God has chosen her to be Jesus' mother.

Key Point: God sent his Son, Jesus, to rescue us from our sin!

Review Questions

1. **Who did God choose to be the mother of his Son, Jesus?** (Mary.)
2. **How did God tell Mary he had chosen her to be the mother of Jesus?** (God sent an angel, Gabriel, to tell her.)
3. **Was Mary happy about being Jesus' mother?** (Yes.)
4. **What did Mary do to show that she was excited to do what God asked her to do?** (She said she wanted to do what God asked her to do, and she worshiped God.)

ACTIVITIES:

Angel Gabriel

Supplies:

- Worksheet - "Gabriel announced Jesus' birth" (one per child)
- ¼ piece of coffee filter (three per child)
- Spool of gold curling ribbon for the halo (one roll per bin)
- Crayons
- Glue sticks

Refer to the craft sample picture and have the children color hair and a face onto the circle. Then, help them glue one ¼-piece of coffee filter to the paper for the angel's clothes, and glue the two other ¼-pieces to the sides for wings. Lastly, have them glue a 1" piece of gold ribbon to the angel's head, to represent Gabriel's halo.

***Have fun and let them do the crafts themselves, as much as possible. This is a hands-on way for them to learn who God is and remember what they learn. It doesn't matter if they place the label or stickers in the wrong spot. What matters is teaching them who God is. ***

We Worship Jesus

Play this game as a variation of "Simon Says." Say "we worship Jesus by..." and then do an action such as clapping your hands, folding your hands in prayer, raising your hands, jumping for joy, singing Jesus loves me, etc. Each time you say "we worship Jesus by..." the kids should follow your action.