

## City LG—December 13<sup>th</sup>, 2020

**Today's Bible Story:** Joyful, Joyful (Gabriel Appears to Mary) • Luke 1:26-56

**Today's Bottom Line:** You can have joy because God has a plan for you.

**Monthly Memory Verse:** *Today in the town of David a Savior has been born to you. He is the Messiah, the Lord.* Luke 2:11 (NIRV)

### **CG: Snow Ball Rally (1-Minute Countdown)**

**Supplies Needed: One Ball Pit Ball/Snow Ball (per kid) and 2 Boxes (per Campus), floor tape to indicate where children throw from**

**NOTE: You will play this game as an Ice-Breaker for your service. Split your kids up into 2 teams and have them stand in 2 separate lines. Give each kid a ball pit ball. Teams compete to see how many balls they can make into the Wrapped Box in the Minute Timer. At the end of the Timer, count balls and declare a winner. Play a few rounds as time and interest allow.**

### **WORSHIP: Dance and Joy to the World (Glory to the King)**

**(Worship Leader prays)**

“Hi, everyone! I’m so glad that I get to share this story with you today. *(Hold up Bible.)* Our story begins with a young woman named Mary. Mary was an ordinary girl from an ordinary town called Nazareth. Mary would have grown up learning the Jewish scriptures, like this one we heard last week from Isaiah.

*Open the Bible to Isaiah 9:6 (NIRV) and read.*

*“A child will be born to us. A son will be given to us. He will rule over us. And he will be called Wonderful Adviser and Mighty God. He will also be called Father Who Lives Forever and Prince Who Brings Peace.*

“Mary was engaged to be married to a carpenter named Joseph. Mary and Joseph probably thought their life together would follow a pretty ordinary path. But one day, EVERYTHING changed. You see, God had a BIG plan for Mary’s life. One day, Mary was all alone . . . when something really amazing happened! An ANGEL appeared.

“Greetings, Mary! *The Lord has blessed you in a special way. He is with you.*” (Luke 1:28, NIRV)

“Wow. Can you imagine how Mary must have felt at this point? I mean, she’s just minding her own business, living her regular, ordinary life . . . then an ANGEL shows up! I’m thinking she was probably scared, and a little confused. *(to kids)* Can you show me your scared face? *(Pause for response.)* That’s great! The angel saw that Mary was upset. He said this.”

*“Do not be afraid, Mary. God is very pleased with you. You will become pregnant and give birth to a son. You must call him Jesus. He will be great and will be called the Son of the Most High God . . . [He] will rule forever over his people.”* (Luke 1:30-33, NIRV)

“I wonder if Mary remembered the words of Isaiah—that God would one day send a Savior to rescue His people. She must have known that God was about to do something incredible in the world! That’s what our video is all about today. Let’s watch!”

**CG: Lesson Video (Runtime: 10:00)**

Mary knew that **[Bottom Line]** you can have joy because God has a plan for you. Say that with me.

**SLIDE: Bottom Line**

**KIDS: [Bottom Line] “You can have joy because God has a plan for you.”**

“Great job! Let’s pray and ask God to help us remember that.”

**SLIDE: Theme Background**

**PRAY:** “Dear God, thank You for Your amazing plan to send Jesus to be our Savior. You loved us so much that You sent Your Son to rescue us . . . and we are so thankful! Please help us trust You no matter what—just like Mary did. We know that we can have joy when we remember that You have a good plan for our lives. We love You, and we pray these things in Jesus’ name. Amen.”

“Jesus was the Savior God had promised so many years before. It was all part of God’s plan. And if we believe and put our faith in Jesus, we can have a relationship with God that will last forever!

“Mary was filled with joy because she understood that she would play an important part in God’s story. God had a good plan for her life—and He has a good plan for our lives, too.

**SLIDE: Bottom Line**

**[Bottom Line] “You can have joy because God has a plan for you.**

“Joy comes from knowing that God has a plan for you. Even if things don’t happen like you think they will, you can find joy in knowing that God loves you . . . He is with you . . . and He sent Jesus for you. Remember that this week when things go your way—and even when they don’t. **[Bottom Line] You can have joy because God has a plan for you.** We’re going to dismiss to some fun activities, but before we do, watch this!”

**CG: Christmas Story Video (Runtime: 3:00)**

*Lead Children in the “All Together Activities” using the instructions on the attached sheet.*