

Scripture Passage: Matthew 1: 18–25

Story Point: What do you think you would do if you had some special news and you wanted to tell someone? Maybe you got a good grade, or something special happened to you. You would want to share that news! Before we had phones or computers, people used to go shout things out really loudly and roam around the street yelling announcements, or sometimes they would take a big piece of paper and nail up a sign for others to see.

How do you think God makes announcements? He speaks to us through his Word, the Bible, and in the Bible we see examples of him announcing important and exciting things to people. Sometimes he did this through prophets who spoke his words. A lot of times he did it through dreams, and through angels. An angel came to Joseph, who was to act as the earthly father of Jesus. This messenger angel announced to Joseph that Mary was going to have the world's most special and important baby ever and was pregnant through the Holy Spirit. Joseph was a little nervous, but do you think the angel was excited to get to share that great news with him? The angel told Joseph that the baby would have a special name, and that Jesus would save people from sins. That's a lot of big news to share! Joseph obeyed all that God had said and helped bring up God's son as his own.

Discussion Questions:

- Have you ever had exciting news to share with someone? How did the person respond?
- How do you think Joseph felt to hear from the angel in his dream? Why do you think he believed what the angel said?
- Mary also had an angel visit her. Do you think Joseph could understand more of how she felt, after the visit of his own?
- Why is it good news that Jesus came to save us from our sins?
- How should having our sins forgiven by Jesus affect how we live our lives?



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