

READ IT

This week's Bible story is
Angels Visit
from Matthew 1:18-25.

God became human for us as the baby Jesus.

Ask each other what you remember about:

- Righteous
- Expose
- Disgrace
- Resolve
- Angels
- Fulfill
- Emmanuel

Joseph followed the directions given by angels in his dreams, not once, but at several life-changing times.

Read the whole story together in the Bible!

Spark Story Bible pages 196-201

Spark NRSV Bible page 1058

Family Prayer

Lord, grant us the trust and courage of Joseph. Help us obey your word however and when ever it is delivered, even if it's delivered in dreams we have in confusing, upsetting situations. Lord, let us hear and understand your guidance. In Jesus' name we pray. Amen.

TALK ABOUT IT

Family Conversations

- 1 Have you ever been told what to do in a dream? Has a dream ever made you happy or scared or sad? Tell about it.
- 2 Can you describe a time when you were in an embarrassing, frightening, or upsetting situation? If an angel delivered a message to you from God, what do you think the message might be?
- 3 In what ways was Joseph Jesus' father? In what ways was God Jesus' father?
- 4 Jesus calls God "Father." As a family, make a list of ways we can understand our relationship to God: Father, Mother, Comforter. Talk about how these ways of understanding God are different from one another.



Eye Spark

Choose a baby diaper, blanket, or sleeper to hold. If you do not have one, close your eyes and imagine one. Spend a few moments paying attention to how it feels, how it looks, and how little it is. Now imagine putting it on God, the creator of the universe, and holding God in your loving arms.



Ear Spark

Sing as many gentle hymns, Sunday school songs, and camp songs as you know. Sing them for the baby Jesus.

LIVE IT

For families to do together

Take turns describing angels. Gather whatever art supplies you have on hand and spend time creating angel images together.

For younger kids

Do you know any babies? With the parents' permission, spend some time playing with the baby. See if you can make the baby laugh.

For older kids

Look for images of angels online. See how many different ideas about the way angels look you can discover. What roles do they play? In other words, what are all the different things they do?

