LARGE GROUP LESSON

Lesson Focus:

Jesus came for everyday people.

Objective:

We'll learn that Jesus is unlike any other King. He came for everyone.

Key Scripture:

Luke 1:26-38, An angel visits Mary to tell her that she will be the mother of the Messiah.

Introduction:

We have all had times when we didn't feel special. Maybe you play a sport, but most of the kids on your team can play better than you. Or maybe you are in a theater group, but you never get a lead role. Maybe you aren't one of the smartest kids in your class. Maybe you aren't one of the most popular kids at school. Nobody is the best at everything. Fortunately, Jesus isn't looking for people who are the best at doing impressive things. Jesus is looking for people who are willing to do one thing. And in the story of Christmas, Mary shows us what that one thing is.

Read: LUKE 1:26-38

(The following is a child-friendly, abridged paraphrase, based on the NIV.)

God sent the angel Gabriel to a young woman who was engaged to a man named Joseph. Her name was Mary. The angel went to her and said, "Greetings, you who are highly favored! The Lord is with you."

Mary did not know what to think about this! But the angel said to her, "Do not be afraid, Mary; you have found favor with God. You will have a baby boy, and you will name him Jesus. He will be great and will be called the Son of the Most High. The Lord God will give him the throne of his father David and he will reign forever; his kingdom will never end."

"How can this be," Mary asked the angel, "since I am not even married yet?" The angel answered, "God will make it happen. So the holy one to be born will be God's Son!

"I am the Lord's servant," Mary answered. "May your word to me be fulfilled." Then the angel left her.



