

Week 4

Day 1: God's Amazing Promise

Scripture Reading: Luke 1:26-38

Devotional:

Can you imagine being Mary? You're young, maybe just a teenager, and suddenly an angel shows up in your house with news that will change your life — and the whole world! Mary could have said "No." She could have been too afraid, or too confused. But instead, she chose to trust God. Sometimes God asks us to do things that don't make sense at first — like forgiving someone who hurt us, giving when we don't have much, or standing up for what's right when others don't. It's not always easy. But when we say, "God, I trust You," we show our faith — just like Mary did. Mary didn't know every detail of what would happen, but she believed that God's plan was good. That's what faith looks like believing before you see the whole picture. God didn't choose Mary because she was rich or famous. He chose her because she had a humble, willing heart. When you trust God with your heart, your choices, and your life, you're celebrating Jesus.

Discussion:

- 1. Can you think of a time where you chose to trust God even though you didn't know how things would end up?
- 2. What was that like?

Prayer:

Dear God, help me to trust You like Mary did, even when I'm afraid or unsure. I know that You love me and that Your plans for me are good. Amen.

Welcome to Week 4 of our Holly Jolly Kitchen Devo!! This is our last week in this series; what a joy it has been to learn more about the birth of Jesus. This week we are focusing on how we can CELEBRATE Jesus!!

Celebrating Jesus isn't just something we do around Christmas time...we can celebrate Him at anytime! He is our greatest gift.

Day 2: Choosing to Obey

Scripture Reading: Matthew 1:18-25 Devotional:

Joseph's story shows us what it looks like to obey even when life gets confusing. Imagine how hard it was for Joseph — everyone around him probably had opinions, questions, and maybe even gossip. But Joseph didn't care about what others thought more than what God said. He chose to do what was right because he trusted God. Obedience isn't always easy. Sometimes it means doing something that feels uncomfortable — like admitting when you're wrong, forgiving a friend, or telling the truth when it could get you in trouble. But obeying God shows that we love Him. When Joseph chose to obey, he became part of God's rescue plan! God used Joseph to protect and care for Jesus when He was little. Joseph's faithfulness made a big difference. God gives us His Word — the Bible — to show us what's right and good. Each time we listen and obey, we celebrate Jesus because we're showing Him that we love and trust Him. Just like Joseph, we can be brave and obedient.

Discussion:

- 1. Why is obedience hard?
- 2. How can you begin to practice obedience to God this week?

Prayer:

Lord, thank You for Joseph's example of obedience. Help me to listen to You and do what's right, even when it's not easy. I know that Your plans are perfect. Amen.

Day 3: Giving Our Best

Scripture Reading: Matthew 2:1-12 Devotional:

The wise men didn't just come to see Jesus they came to worship Him. They traveled far, faced danger, and spent months searching, all because they wanted to honor the newborn King. They didn't bring leftovers or small gifts. They brought their best. Worship isn't just something we do at church. Worship means giving God the best part of ourselves every day — our time, our praise, our love, and our attention. When we pray, sing songs to Him, read the Bible, or treat others kindly, we're giving gifts to Jesus, too. The wise men's journey reminds us that Jesus is worth any effort. He is the King of kings and deserves our very best. Sometimes, we give our best to school, sports, or hobbies — and those things are good! But Jesus should always come first in our hearts. When we put Him first, everything else falls into place. You don't need gold or myrrh; what He wants most is your love and your heart. That's the best gift of all!

Discussion:

- 1. How will you give your best to God this week?
- 2. Why is it important to give our best to God?

Prayer:

Jesus, thank You for being the greatest King and Savior. You are worthy of all my praise! Help me give You my best every day. I want my life to be a gift to You. Amen.

Day 4: God's Care Never Fails

Scripture Reading: Matthew 2:13-23 Devotional:

God's plan didn't stop after Jesus was born — He continued protecting Him every step of the way. When danger came, God warned Joseph. When they needed a safe place, God provided one. Nothing could stop God's plan of love from happening. That same God watches over you every single day. You might not see angels or hear God in a dream like Joseph did, but God is still speaking and guiding us. He protects us through parents, teachers, and friends. He keeps His promises and never forgets us. Sometimes life feels scary maybe you worry about the future or about someone you love. But you can rest knowing that God is watching over you. His love never fails, and He is always near. When you remember how God cared for Jesus, it reminds you that His care for you is just as strong. We can celebrate Jesus by trusting Him!

Activity:

Make a "Gift for Jesus" card.
On one side, write or draw something you want to give Jesus this week — your kindness, patience, or prayer time. On the other side, decorate it and put it somewhere you'll see it as a reminder to give Jesus your best.

Prayer:

Dear God, thank You for watching over Jesus and for watching over me, too. When I'm afraid or unsure, remind me that You are always with me. Help me to rest in Your love. Amen.

Memory Verse

"Thanks be to God for His gift that is too wonderful for words." 2 Corinthians 9:15 (NCV)



