



Unit 1, Lesson 2

## TODAY'S BIBLE STORY: THE ANNOUNCEMENTS

LUKE 1:26-38; MATTHEW 1:18-25; ISAIAH 7:10-14

### THE STORY @ HOME

In today's story God sends an angel to Elizabeth's cousin Mary, and to her fiancé Joseph, telling each about the coming birth of Mary's baby, Jesus. Now Elizabeth and Mary are both pregnant and both received the promise of a son from God's angel messenger. Mary and Joseph are told to call her baby Jesus because He will save His people from their sins. The angel's message fulfills the promise, "The virgin will conceive and give birth to a son, and they will call him Immanuel" (which means "God with us"). (*Matthew 1:23*)

#### PARENTS & KIDS QUESTIONS:

- An announcement is a statement or a note of information. Announcements can be spoken or written. What is your most recent announcement?
- God's angel announces to Mary and Joseph about her son. The angel tells them what name to call Him. Why?
- Does your name have a special meaning?

### TOGETHER @ HOME

Briefly review the Luke 1:26-38 Bible story with your child, then visit a friend with a new baby or a hospital's newborn unit. Talk together about how each baby is unique and special to the parents and also to God. Affirm your child and remind him or her of the many experiences and opportunities ahead.

### BIBLE MEMORY @ HOME

Review with your family this month's memory verse, "She will give birth to a son, and you are to give him the name Jesus because he will save his people from their sins" (*Matthew 1:21*). Together with your child design a "birth announcement" about Jesus. On the announcement print the memory verse. Each evening before dinner, ask your child to read Jesus' birth announcement with the memory verse. Repeating a verse helps your child internalize the words and meaning. Enjoy your dinner and special parent and child time together.