

SHOP & PREP



WEEK 1

ACTIVITY | Angels We Have Hidden on High

- WHAT TO GET:
 - [Angel tree topper](#)
 - Printout of a [map of Los Angeles](#)
- WHAT TO PREP: Print the map and hide it with the angel tree topper somewhere in plain sight before kids arrive. You'll do this every week.

ACTIVITY | Uncover the Art

- WHAT TO GET:
 - Paintbrushes (1 per kid)
 - Small bowls for water (1 per 4 to 5 kids)
 - Watercolor paints (1 per 4 to 5 kids)
 - Printable
 - White cardstock paper
 - White crayon
 - Colored pencils (optional)
- WHAT TO PREP: Print printable on white cardstock paper, one for each kid. With white crayon, write "Special Plans" on each pair of wings. Check out [this video](#) to see how the activity works with kids. (See a worked example [here](#).)

SCRIPTURE | Luke 1:5–25 (An Angel Appears to Zechariah)

- WHAT TO GET:
 - Suggested costumes and props for the storyteller:
 - **Ice cream vendor:** Baseball cap, apron, large cooler with pictures of ice cream taped to it (to resemble a [pushcart](#)).
 - **Street performer:** 1 or 2 paint buckets and an overturned hat (for tips)
 - **Abuela/elderly person:** Wig, glasses, potted plant, water spray
 - Suggested costumes and props for Gabriel:
 - Streetwear
 - Sneakers
 - Cap
 - Basketball
- WHAT TO PREP: Share the script with whoever will play the role of Gabriel and the storyteller (if it's not you). Have them practice their lines so it sounds as natural as possible. Bring props that will best support each character.

BIG IDEA | Jesus is God's plan.

- **WHAT TO GET:**
 - [Brick-patterned](#) bulletin board paper (or plain butcher paper)
 - Markers or poster paint
- **WHAT TO PREP:** Write this week's Big Idea somewhere on the bulletin board paper and then roll up the paper. You'll be adding to this wall art every week, so conserve space when writing the Big Idea. You might want to recruit a volunteer to write it using [mural lettering](#) or graffiti art (or look up tutorials like [this one](#) to do it yourself).

ACTIVITY | Trust the Plan

- **WHAT TO GET:**
 - [Tangrams kits](#) or
 - [Printable Tangrams](#) or
 - [Buildzi](#)
- **WHAT TO PREP:** Depending on the size of your group, prepare enough kits for about every four to five kids. If using the printable version, print in color on cardstock paper and cut out the pieces in advance.

REFLECTION | One Word Project

- **WHAT TO GET:**
 - Christmas cards or postcards
 - Markers
 - Pens
 - Stickers

ACTIVITY | Park Plan

- **WHAT TO GET:**
 - Pencils and erasers
 - Markers or colored pencils
- **WHAT TO PREP:** Prepare printouts or a digital slideshow of big city parks, such as [Echo Park](#) (Los Angeles), [Central Park](#) (New York City), [Piedmont Park](#) (Atlanta), or playgrounds in the city ([like this apartment](#) or [this neighborhood park](#)). Print a copy of [this park plan](#) (or make your own) for each kid.

MEMORY VERSE | Luke 2:10 (NIV)

- **WHAT TO PREP:** Cue [this video](#) (or something similar).

ACTIVITY | Urban-gelic Ornaments

- **WHAT TO GET:**
 - [Angel ornament cutout](#) (1 per kid)
 - Pencils
 - Acrylic paint and fine paintbrushes
 - Paint markers
 - Newspaper or tarp
- **WHAT TO PREP:** Set up paints and rinsing stations. Cover surfaces with newspaper or tarps. Prepare to show examples of modern angel art for inspiration: [Example 1](#), [Example 2](#).

WEEK 2

ACTIVITY | Angels We Have Hidden on High

- **WHAT TO GET:**
 - [Angel tree topper](#)
 - Items for a calming jar
 - Jar with a lid
 - Glitter
 - Glitter glue
 - Food coloring
- **WHAT TO PREP:** Make the calming jar ahead of time and hide it with the angel tree topper somewhere in plain sight before kids arrive.

ACTIVITY | Uncover the Art

- **WHAT TO GET:**
 - Paintbrushes (1 per kid)
 - Small bowls for water (1 per 4 to 5 kids)
 - Watercolor paints (1 per 4 to 5 kids)
 - Printable
 - White cardstock paper
 - White crayon
 - Colored pencils (optional)
- **WHAT TO PREP:** Print printable on white cardstock paper, one for each kid. With white crayon, write "Don't be afraid" on each pair of wings. Check out [this video](#) to see how the activity works with kids.

SCRIPTURE | Luke 1:26–38, 46b–55 (An Angel Appears to Mary)

- **WHAT TO GET:**
 - Suggested costumes and props for the storyteller and Gabriel (see Week 1)
- **WHAT TO PREP:** Share the script with whoever will play the role of Gabriel and the storyteller (if it's not you). Have them practice their lines so it sounds as natural as possible. Bring props that will best support each character.

BIG IDEA | Jesus calms our fears.

- **WHAT TO GET:**
 - [Brick-patterned](#) bulletin board paper (or plain butcher paper)
 - Markers or poster paint
- **WHAT TO PREP:** Write this week's Big Idea somewhere on the bulletin board paper and then roll up the paper. You'll be adding to this wall art every week, so conserve space when writing the Big Idea. You might want to recruit a volunteer to write it using [mural lettering](#) or graffiti art (or look up tutorials like [this one](#) to do it yourself).

OBJECT LESSON | Making Fears Go Away

- **WHAT TO GET:**
 - Black and white construction paper
 - White crayons or chalk
- **WHAT TO PREP:** Write your fears on a black piece of paper first, making sure they're relevant and audience-appropriate. Be ready to share more with the group. Be prepared for some of the tougher things kids might write by asking yourself questions about your context, like:
 - What do I know about the home lives of these kids?
 - Should I talk with some leaders or kids before this activity to make sure they know they don't have to share, but they can still talk to you outside of program?
 - Could some of the kids' fears be comparable to adult fears you might expect like: divorce in the family, violence in my neighborhood, violence in my house, family's

immigration status, drug use in the house?

REFLECTION | One Word Project

- **WHAT TO GET:**
 - Christmas cards or postcards
 - Markers
 - Pens
 - Stickers

MEMORY VERSE | Luke 2:10 (NIV)

- **WHAT TO GET:**
 - Small rock or pebble
 - See-through packing tape
 - Printable
- **WHAT TO PREP:** Print the hopscotch squares from the printable and arrange them according to the schematic included. Secure the squares using packing tape. Prepare one hopscotch grid for the group or for larger groups, set up one per team.

ACTIVITY | Create Your Own Calming Jar

- **WHAT TO GET:**
 - Jars with a lid
 - Glitter
 - Glitter glue
 - Food coloring
- **WHAT TO PREP:** Gather all the materials for each kid to make a calming jar to take home. Learn how to make one [here](#).

WEEK 3

ACTIVITY | Angels We Have Hidden on High

- WHAT TO GET:
 - [Angel tree topper](#)
 - [Car air freshener](#)
- WHAT TO PREP: Hide the items before kids arrive.

ACTIVITY | Uncover the Art

- WHAT TO GET:
 - Paintbrushes (1 per kid)
 - Small bowls for water (1 per 4 to 5 kids)
 - Watercolor paints (1 per 4 to 5 kids)
 - Printable
 - White cardstock paper
 - White crayon
 - Colored pencils (optional)
- WHAT TO PREP: Print printable on white cardstock paper, one for each kid. With white crayon, write "All new" on each pair of wings. Check out [this video](#) to see how the activity works with kids.

SCRIPTURE | Matthew 1:18–25 (An Angel Appears to Joseph in a Dream)

- WHAT TO GET:
 - Suggested costumes and props for the storyteller and Gabriel (see Week 1)
- WHAT TO PREP: Share the script with whoever will play the role of Gabriel and the storyteller (if it's not you). Have them practice their lines so it sounds as natural as possible. Bring props that will best support each character.

BIG IDEA | Jesus makes everything new.

- WHAT TO GET:
 - [Brick-patterned](#) bulletin board paper (or plain butcher paper)
 - Markers or poster paint
- WHAT TO PREP: Write this week's Big Idea somewhere on the bulletin board paper and then roll up the paper. You'll be adding to this wall art every week, so conserve space when writing the Big Idea. You might want to recruit a volunteer to write it using [mural lettering](#) or graffiti art (or look up tutorials like [this one](#) to do it yourself).

VIDEO | Just Like New

- WHAT TO PREP: Watch [the video](#) before the kids arrive so you know what to expect and skip through the ads.

OBJECT LESSON | New Old Coins

- WHAT TO GET:
 - Old coins (pennies work best)
 - White vinegar
 - Salt
 - Non-metal bowls (for water and for the vinegar and salt mixture)
 - Gloves or tweezers
- WHAT TO PREP: Hide all of the pennies in the room before kids arrive. You may want to hide twice as many pennies as kids to ensure they find one and you don't waste time looking for every single penny. Use the ratio of .25 cups of vinegar to a teaspoon of salt to make the mixture. In non-metal bowls, make as much of the mixture as you'll need for the number of kids you expect. Stir until the salt is dissolved. Pour water into a bowl. Watch [this video](#) to get an idea of how this experiment will look.

REFLECTION | One Word Project

- WHAT TO GET:
 - Christmas cards or postcards
 - Markers
 - Pens
 - Stickers

ACTIVITY | The Cards You're Dealt

- WHAT TO GET:
 - [Playing cards](#)

MEMORY VERSE | Luke 2:10 (NIV)

- WHAT TO GET:
 - Printables
 - Tape
- WHAT TO PREP: Print the freeway signs and place them throughout the room. Have some Christmas music ready to play.

ACTIVITY | Something New Ornament

- **WHAT TO GET:**
 - Recycled materials (paper plates, popsicle sticks, cotton balls, mismatched buttons)
 - Paperclips (1 per ornament)
 - Scissors
 - Print "Jesus makes everything new" cut into little strips
 - Glue
- **WHAT TO PREP:** Make an example ornament to show the kids. Print strips of "Jesus makes everything new." (See a worked example [here](#).)

WEEK 4

ACTIVITY | Angels We Have Hidden on High

- **WHAT TO GET:**
 - [Angel tree topper](#)
 - Candy canes (enough for every kid and volunteer to have one)
- **WHAT TO PREP:** Hide the items before kids arrive.

ACTIVITY | Uncover the Art

- **WHAT TO GET:**
 - Paintbrushes (1 per kid)
 - Small bowls for water (1 per 4 to 5 kids)
 - Watercolor paints (1 per 4 to 5 kids)
 - Printable
 - White cardstock paper
 - White crayon
 - Colored pencils (optional)
- **WHAT TO PREP:** Print printable on white cardstock paper, one for each kid. With white crayon, write "Love" on each pair of wings. Check out [this video](#) to see how the activity works with kids.

POLL | Angel Alert

- **WHAT TO GET:**
 - Cell phone (1 per team)
- **WHAT TO PREP:** Make sure you have some extra volunteer leaders on hand for this activity.

SCRIPTURE | Luke 2:1–20 (Angels Appear to Shepherds)

- **WHAT TO GET:**
 - Suggested costumes and props for the storyteller and Gabriel (see Week 1)
- **WHAT TO PREP:** Share the script with whoever will play the role of Gabriel and the storyteller (if it's not you). Have them practice their lines so it sounds as natural as possible. Bring props that will best support each character.

BIG IDEA | Jesus is God's love for everyone.

- **WHAT TO GET:**
 - [Brick-patterned](#) bulletin board paper (or plain butcher paper)
 - Markers or poster paint
- **WHAT TO PREP:** Write this week's Big Idea somewhere on the bulletin board paper and then roll up the paper. You might want to recruit a volunteer to write it using [mural lettering](#) or graffiti art (or look up tutorials like [this one](#) to do it yourself).

IMAGE | God Loves Different

- **INSTRUCTIONS:** On a projector or printout, prepare to show an image (like [this one](#)) that includes a lot of different people.

ACTIVITY | Gift Wrap Relay

- Pre-cut wrapping paper or newspaper
- Tape
- Various items to wrap (stuffed animals, office supplies, shoes, books)
 - **WHAT TO PREP:** Gather items from around your space and divide them equally amongst teams.

REFLECTION | One Word Project

- **WHAT TO GET:**
 - Christmas cards or postcards
 - Markers
 - Pens
 - Stickers

ACTIVITY | Christmas in the City

- **WHAT TO GET:**
 - Printable
 - Thin markers
 - Colored pencils
 - Pens
 - Crayons
 - Stickers
- **WHAT TO PREP:** Before the activity, write example messages in a place where kids can see them well.

MEMORY VERSE | Luke 2:10 (NIV)

- **WHAT TO GET:**
 - Long jump rope

ACTIVITY | Be the Hands and Wings

- **WHAT TO GET:**
 - Cardstock
 - Craft paint
 - Paper plates
 - Wipes
- **WHAT TO PREP:** [Here's](#) a basic idea of what the activity might look like.