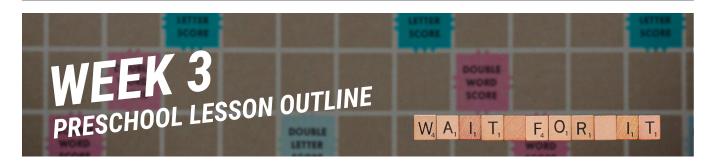
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THE BIG IDEA

Wait and see, God will do impossible things.

THE BIBLE

An Angel Appears to Mary: Luke 1:26-38

THIS WEEK AT A GLANCE

WELCOME TIME

- MUSIC | Worship
- **ACTIVITY** | What Time Is It, Fox?
- **ACTIVITY** | Operation

TEACHING TIME

- SCRIPTURE | Luke 1:26-38
- **THE BIG IDEA** | Wait and see, God will do impossible things.
- **VIDEO** | Wait For It, Episode 3
- ACTIVITY | Angels Announce the Impossible
- PRAYER

DISCUSSION TIME

- **SNACK** | Angel Hal-O's
- **ACTIVITY** | Impossible Shot
- ACTIVITY | Wait and See
- MEMORY VERSE | Micah 7:7 (NIV)

PLAY TIME

- **ACTIVITY** | Coloring Page
- **ACTIVITY** | The Waiting Game
- **ACTIVITY** | Angels We Have Heard On High





BY DARBY GEORGE

HOW TO HACK THIS SERIES FOR TODDLERS

In children's ministry, you've got a wide range of ages you need to engage every week, but toddlers tend to get overlooked. But you know your toddlers need more than just babysitting, so here are a few adjustments you can make to this week in order to keep your toddlers more engaged.

ACTIVITY | Operation

Play a game that requires not disturbing other pieces, like "Don't Break the Ice", "Yeti in My Spaghetti", or "Kerplunk".

ACTIVITY | Angels Announce the Impossible

Create halos for each of the kids to take home with them. Help the kids make a circle out of two or three gold- or silver-colored pipe cleaners. Once they have created a circle shape, attach two pipe cleaners on either side of the circle, and wrap the other end around a <u>plastic headband</u>.

ACTIVITY | Micah 7:7 (NIV)

Put the memory verse papers in a circle, facing outward. Come up with a fun, catchy tune for the memory verse (e.g., "Santa Claus is Coming to Town," "Rudolph the Red-Nosed Reindeer," etc.). Have kids walk around the memory verse circle, repeating the lines after you and singing along.

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WEEK 3 PRESCHOOL LESSON GUIDE $F_4 O_1 R_1$ I, T, W, A, I, T,

THE BIG IDEA

Wait and see, God will do impossible things.

THE BIBLE

An Angel Appears to Mary: Luke 1:26-38

WELCOME TIME

MUSIC | Worship

• **INSTRUCTIONS:** Prepare to lead the kids into a fun time of worship with songs like, "Jump for Joy."

ACTIVITY | What Time Is It, Fox?

- **INSTRUCTIONS:** One kid is chosen to be the fox and takes their place across the gym or room from the other kids. The fox then shouts a number between one and twelve o'clock. The number shouted is the number of steps the group of kids take toward them (e.g. for nine o'clock, take nine steps). Once the kids get close to the fox, the fox shouts, "Lunch time!" and chases them back to the start line. The kid who is tagged first has to be the fox next.
- This game has lots of opportunities to practice patience! If you're the fox, you're waiting for everyone to get close so you can yell, "Lunch time!" and chase them back to the starting line. If you're listening to the fox, you're waiting for the numbers to be called so you can inch your way closer. And as we've been learning, waiting is super important.

ACTIVITY | Operation

- Have you ever played the game, "Operation?" In this game, you have to grab little pieces with a tweezer without making the person's nose light up and shake!
- **INSTRUCTIONS:** Provide the "<u>Operation</u>" game for the kids to try. Allow each kid to get a chance to try and retrieve a game piece without triggering the buzzer.
 - *** TODDLER HACK:** Play a game that requires not disturbing other pieces, like "Don't

Break the Ice", "Yeti in My Spaghetti", or "Kerplunk".

- This game seems impossible, doesn't it?
- The Bible is full of stories where God does impossible things and our story today is no different!

TEACHING TIME

SCRIPTURE | Luke 1:26-38

- **INSTRUCTIONS:** Ask two kids to volunteer to help act out this story. Provide a robe for the kid who plays Mary and a halo and robe for the kid who plays the angel, Gabriel.
- Today, we're about to hear a very special story. This story begins with an angel named Gabriel (*Have the kid playing Gabriel come up to the front in their costume*). God sent Gabriel to Nazareth, a town in Galilee, to meet a woman named Mary (*Have the kid playing Mary come up to the front in their costume*).
- Mary was about to be married to a man named Joseph. Gabriel greeted Mary and said, "God has blessed you in a special way. God is with you." (Motion for Gabriel to approach Mary.) But Mary was worried, she wondered what Gabriel's message could mean (Have Mary to make a worried face).
- Gabriel knew she was worried (*Have Gabriel tap Mary on the shoulder*). He said to her, "Do not be afraid, Mary. God is very pleased with you. You are going to have a baby and you will call him, Jesus. Jesus will be great and everyone will come to know him as the Son of God."
- But Mary was confused (*Have Mary shrug her shoulders*). She wasn't sure how she was going to have a baby when she wasn't married? Gabriel told her (*Have Gabriel put both hands up towards the sky*) God has the power to make the impossible happen . . . whatever God says will come true.
- After hearing all this, Mary said, "I serve God. May it happen to me just as you said it would" (Have Mary bow or curtsy).

THE BIG IDEA | Wait and see, God will do impossible things.

- **INSTRUCTIONS:** Use the giant dice from last week and encourage the kids to take turns passing and rolling the dice. When they roll two of the same number, they get to uncover the Big Idea! Then, ask all of the kids to say the Big Idea together.
- Now, for one more roll everyone give me a drumroll!
- Today's Big Idea is . . . wait and see, the Savior will do impossible things.

VIDEO | Wait For It, Episode 3

• INSTRUCTIONS: Play this week's preschool teaching video.

ACTIVITY | Angels Announce the Impossible

• **INSTRUCTIONS:** Give each kid a <u>lollipop</u>, a styrofoam cup, 3 <u>coffee filters</u>, and one <u>gold pipe</u>

Grow wait for it | preschool – week 3 lesson guide

<u>cleaner</u>. Help the kids put together their angel in this way: Turn the cup upside down, then cover it with a coffee filter. Then poke the lollipop through the filter and center of the cup base, but leave a little but of the stick showing. Take a second filter and now cover the lollipop and the cup. Make a small circle out of the pipe cleaner and rest it on top of the lollipop, then wrap the rest of it around the lollipop stick and second filter. Take the last filter, fold it in half to make wings, and glue it to the back of the angel. (<u>Here</u> is what the final product might look like.)

- TODDLER HACK: Create halos for each of the kids to take home with them. Help the kids make a circle out of two or three gold- or silver-colored pipe cleaners. Once they have created a circle shape, attach two pipe cleaners on either side of the circle, and wrap the other end around a plastic headband.
- God used angels to announce that God would be doing impossible things with Jesus' help. Let this angel you made today remind you that God can do anything! Wait and see, God will do impossible things.

PRAYER

• Dear God, Thank You for sending Gabriel to tell Mary about Jesus. Help us to believe that you can do impossible things, like Mary did. We know that you have the power to do anything, like sending Jesus to us! Amen.

DISCUSSION TIME

SNACK | Angel Hal-O's

- **INSTRUCTIONS:** Provide various circle-shaped snacks for the kids to choose from like Cheerios, cookies, or gummy rings.
- In our story today, we heard about an angel named Gabriel. Often when we see pictures of angels, they are wearing halos. Our snacks today look just like halos!
- What do you think an angel's favorite snack is?
- If you were an angel, what would you want to do?
- If an angel appeared in your home, how would you react?

ACTIVITY | Impossible Shot

- **INSTRUCTIONS:** Create an Impossible Shot by placing a large bin or trash can at one end of the room. Line up the kids at the other end of the room and give the first kid in line a ball. Tell them they must stand with their back toward the trash can or bin and attempt to throw the ball into the bin backward all the way across the room.
- Mary thought it was impossible for her to have a baby, but it happened just like Gabriel said it would.
- What is one way we make this impossible shot? How about if I brought the bin so that it's right behind you. Then it's much easier to make this shot, right?
- God makes the impossible things possible. Wait and see, God will do impossible things!

ACTIVITY | Wait and See

- **INSTRUCTIONS:** This is kind of like "Pin the Tail on the Donkey." On a large poster paper or banner paper, draw a large pair of glasses. Write one word of the Big Idea on separate sticky notes. Have the kids line up about three feet away from the poster. Put a blindfold on the first kid, and hand them a sticky note. Have them spin around three times, then guide them towards the poster. See if they can stick their sticky note inside of the glasses frames. After all the sticky notes are up, have kids help you put the Big Idea in the right order.
- What impossible thing did Gabriel tell Mary was going to happen?
- How did Mary respond to this impossible news?
- What did Gabriel tell Mary when she was worried about God's news?
- Mary needed to wait and see that God will do impossible things!

MEMORY VERSE | Micah 7:7 (NIV)

- **INSTRUCTIONS:** Use the memory verse printable from week 2. Pass out one page to each kid (pair up kids if you have more than 10 kids in your group, or give each kid more than one page if you have less than 10 kids). Have the kids sit in a circle around you, but out of order. Point to each kid in order of the memory verse, and each time you point, the kid holding that page needs to read it out loud. After doing this a couple times, have one of the kids come to the middle and try to point to the kids in order. For an added challenge, have kids change seats so they're in a different order.
 - TODDLER HACK: Put the memory verse papers in a circle, facing outward. Come up with a fun, catchy tune for the memory verse (e.g., "Santa Claus is Coming to Town," "Rudolph the Red-Nosed Reindeer," etc.). Have kids walk around the memory verse circle, repeating the lines after you and singing along.

PLAY TIME

While you're waiting for parents to pick up their kids . .

ACTIVITY | Coloring Page

• **INSTRUCTIONS:** Provide this week's coloring page and some crayons or markers. Review today's Bible story and Big Idea as the kids color.

ACTIVITY | The Waiting Game

• **INSTRUCTIONS:** Every week in Wait For It, try out a new board game with your kids to reinforce the idea of having to wait before getting a win. You can play any game you have available, but you might want to check out "Pancake Pile Up," a fun relay game!

ACTIVITY | Angels We Have Heard On High

• **INSTRUCTIONS:** Print and distribute the printable for this activity and provide coloring and fun decorating supplies for the kids. Instruct them to design the angel the way they think Gabriel may have looked.

Encourage your preschoolers to help clean up the room while they wait for their parents.