



## THE STORY OF CREATION

### UNIT TWO: GOD MADE HUMAN BEINGS

#### Lesson 7: Mary Said 'YES' to God

##### CONTENT:

1. God chose to use Mary in his plan to save the world. She was to be the mother of his Son, Jesus.
2. When the angel Gabriel appeared to Mary and told her of God's plan, she said 'yes'. This made God happy.
3. By the action of the Holy Spirit, she conceived the Son of God in her womb. [CCC494]
4. 'Jesus' means 'God saves'. Our names have a special meaning too. [CCC430]
-  5. If we say 'Yes' to God when he asks us to do anything, he works something good.
6. The 'Hail Mary' is a good prayer to say, because they great things God did.  
'Hail Mary' is a greeting. It means, 'Be happy, Mary'; 'full of grace' means 'full of God';  
 'Womb' is the place where the baby grows inside its mother.' [CCC2676]

**ASSIGNMENT:** Ask your family if they know what the name 'Jesus' means. Then read the handout. Find out what your name means.

**REFERENCES:** Luke 1:26-38; CCC 430,494.

**MATERIALS NEEDED:** Handouts; handout of Lesson 6;

**FOR BADGES:** Card-paper, punch, safety pins, felt pens.

#### I. STARTER:

- Can you remember what bad things happened when Adam and Eve said 'No' to God? [*Let the children look at the sketches on handout 6.*]

*[They couldn't be friends with God anymore; they became sad inside; they fought with each other; they had to die, instead of living with God forever.]*

Now we'll see what happens when someone said 'Yes' to God.

#### II. DEVELOPMENT:

**STORY OF THE ANGEL'S VISIT:** I am going to tell you a true story, not a made up one.

Once upon a time there lived a beautiful young girl. She was very good and kind and loving. She loved everyone: her father and mother, her neighbours, especially the poor people. But most of all she loved God. She talked to God all the time, because she loved him so much.

Did I tell you the girl's name? It was Mary. One day, Mary was all alone in her house. Suddenly she saw a bright light in the room. "What is it?" Mary thought. "Is it the sunlight? No, it is too bright, and different from the sun... Is it fire?..."

Then she saw a person in the middle of the light. It was an angel: A shining messenger from God! The angel looked at Mary and smiled at her. He said, "Hail Mary, full of grace! The Lord is with you!"

Mary was very puzzled and confused and a little frightened. She thought, "Why is this wonderful angel saying such great things about me? I'm just a simple girl."

The angel knew what Mary was thinking. He said, "Don't be afraid, Mary. God is very happy with you. Now he has chosen you to have a very special baby. You will be the mother of God's Son. He is going to save all the people in the world. That's why you must name him Jesus."

Mary was still a bit confused. She asked the angel, "How can I have a baby? I'm not married. I don't have a husband!"

The angel said, “The Holy Spirit will cover you like a cloud and you will have a miracle baby... a holy baby. He will be God’s Son.” Then the angel waited to see if Mary would say ‘Yes’ or ‘No’.

Mary knew that it would be very difficult to do what God asked. But she loved God very much. She was ready to do whatever he asked her. So she said, “YES! I’m ready! I am God’s servant. Let him do whatever he wants with me.”

God was very happy with his daughter Mary. The angels in heaven jumped and clapped. Now God’s plan could work!

There was only one person who was not happy.. and that was the devil! He said, “OH NO! Now all my plans are going ‘ultaa-pultaa’!”

- Can you guess what the angel’s name was? [*His name was Gabriel.*] He is one of the archangels, the powerful angels.

[Give out the handouts. Read the written matter from the first half of the page.]

- Can you guess what ‘Jesus’ means?..It means ‘GOD SAVES’! God wanted everyone to know that his Son Jesus would save us. That’s why he called him Jesus.

[Children write the words ‘GOD SAVES’ and colour the picture.]

**Home assignment:** Ask your family if they know what the name ‘Jesus’ means.  
Find out what your name means.

#### NEXT CLASS:

- Do you remember the true story of Mary and how she said ‘Yes’ to God? Let’s try and act it, so that we remember it better.

[Volunteers enact the story. Get children to take the parts of the Angel Gabriel, Mary, God, the angels in heaven, the devil. If needed, help the children by prompting them as they act.]

[After the skit ask the children to take out their handouts.]

- Did your Daddy and Mummy know the meaning of ‘Jesus’? Did you find out the meaning of your name? [*Children share the meaning of their name. If they have not already done so, they could write the meaning in the space given.*]

### III. REFLECTION & PRAYER:

Here’s a prayer to Mother Mary which many people say every day. It has the words that the angel said to her. [Read the prayer aloud.]

- ‘Hail Mary’ means ‘Be happy Mary!’
- ‘Full of grace’ means ‘full of God’.
- Do you know what ‘womb’ means? It’s the cosy little room inside your mummy where you grew for 9 months before you came out. All babies grow inside their mother’s womb.
- So what is ‘fruit of your womb’? [*It is the baby who is inside the mother.*]
- Who is the fruit of Mary’s womb? [*Jesus*]
- Who is the fruit of your mummy’s womb? [*You!*]
- Mother Mary and Jesus are very special people. They are blessed. That’s why we say this prayer  
Close your eyes and think of Mary and baby Jesus as we say this prayer.

[The children pray the Hail Mary. If you have a large picture of Mary with baby Jesus, they could look at it as they pray.]

### IV. ACTIVITY:

- Just like Mary, we must also say ‘Yes’ to God. He will be very happy if we do, and the angels in heaven will be happy too. When we say ‘Yes’, then God is able to do good things for us and for others. How will we remember to say ‘Yes’?... Let’s make ‘YES’ badges and wear them.

[The children make ‘Yes’ badges. The badges are already cut and punched. They write the words ‘YES GOD!’ and draw a face/decorate it as they like. Allow them freedom and praise their efforts.]