

CHRISTMAS

HEROES

OF THE

FAITH

Ordinary Men and Women . . .
Super Ordinary Power

2

A VIRGIN IS GOING TO HAVE A BABY!

HEROES OF THE FAITH CURRICULUM—2012

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 *Mission*[®]
Arlington † Metroplex
Taking church to the people



A VIRGIN IS GOING TO HAVE A BABY!

Memory Verse:

They replied, "Believe in the Lord Jesus, and you will be saved—you and your household." (Acts 16:31 NIV)

Lesson Goals:

#1 - Understand how ordinary Mary was

#2 - Discover what obedience led Mary to do

#3 - Desire to let God do extraordinary things in the life of the ordinary student

Audience:

Young, un-churched learners

Adaptable for all ages, including adults (See **For more training** on Activities page)

Scripture to Study:

Luke 1:26-56



A VIRGIN IS GOING TO HAVE A BABY!

Luke 1:26-56

Who can tell me what a hero is? A hero is someone who is courageous and brave and compassionate. There are heroes and heroines in the Bible. All of them are brave and courageous and more, but not in the way you would expect.

Our heroine: Mary

Her Heroic Feat: Believed the Lord

Believing the Lord may not sound very heroic, but let's look at the facts and see what you think when you have heard the whole story!

In our last lesson, we talked about Zechariah. He prayed for a son and God heard his prayers. When his wife Elizabeth was six months pregnant, God sent the angel Gabriel not to visit Zechariah again, but to Nazareth, a town in the region of Galilee. You see, Gabriel was sent to visit a young woman named Mary. Mary was still a virgin and she was engaged to marry a man named Joseph.

The angel Gabriel came to Mary and said, "The Lord has given you special favor. He is with you. . . do not be afraid, Mary. God is very pleased with you." (Luke 1:28, 30 NIV) And then the angel told Mary something incredible! The angel Gabriel told Mary that she would get pregnant and have a son, but not just any son. This son would be great and would be called the Son of the Most High God!

Mary didn't quite understand . . . how could a virgin have a baby? Gabriel had an answer, "The Holy Spirit will come down to you, and God's power will come over you. So your child will be called the holy Son of God." (Luke 1:35 CEV)

Then the angel Gabriel told Mary about Elizabeth's pregnancy. Elizabeth was Mary's relative. Elizabeth was very old and people thought she wasn't able to have children. Gabriel told Mary, "Nothing is impossible for God!" (Luke 1:37 CEV) Mary responded to the angel Gabriel, and ultimately to God. She believed that God would do what He promised and she said, "'I am the Lord's servant! Let it happen as you have said.' And the angel left her." (Luke 1:38 CEV)

"Mary got up and went quickly to a town in the hills of Judea." (Luke 1:39 NCV) She went to visit her relative Elizabeth. When Mary greeted her, John jumped inside of Elizabeth and she was filled with the Holy Spirit. She spoke about how blessed Mary was and how happy she was for the visit from her Lord's mother. She even told Mary, "You are blessed because you believed that what the Lord said to you would really happen." (Luke 1:45 NCV) As impossible as Gabriel's message had seemed, Mary believed it.

And then Mary praised God her Savior and she said, "I am not important, but He has shown His care for me, His lowly servant. From now until the end of time, people will remember how much God blessed me." (Luke 1:48 ERV) Mary knew that she had nothing to do with this, beyond obeying God. She knew that these things would happen "because the Powerful One" had done great things for her, because "His name is holy." (Luke 1:49 NCV)

How about you? Do you believe God has done great things for you? Well, He has. Did you know that God loved you so much that he sent the Holy Spirit down to Mary to give us His one and only Son? Anyone who believes in His Son is promised eternal life. Mary believed that God could do what He said He would do. Do you believe that God loves you? That He sent Jesus to earth to rescue you? Do you believe that you can have eternal life?

Do you remember our earlier lesson about Paul and Silas when they were in a jail in Philippi? When the jailer asked what he needed to do to be saved, "They replied, 'Believe in the Lord Jesus, and you will be saved—you and your household.'" (Acts 16:31 NIV) Have you believed in the Lord, trusting that He sent His one and only Son for you? If you have, you can rest in the promise that you have eternal life?

If you haven't, what's stopping you? Mary believed, the Philippian jailer and his family believed. All of the heroes of the faith we have talked about believed that God is who He says He is and that He keeps His promises. You will be in great company! Let's talk.

YOU CAN BE A HERO, TOO!

When you live a life of faith in Jesus Christ, you don't have to leap tall buildings to be a hero. Mary believed the Lord. Mary believed that God was able to do what He promised.

Do you believe? If you have, you have been rescued from sin and saved to eternal life. If not, then you have no promise of eternal life one day. God loves you. Don't you want to follow Him?



NEXT WEEK
Christmas Lesson: Joseph

PRE-SCHOOL!

LESSON

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The angel Gabriel came to Mary and said, "The Lord has given you special favor. He is with you. . . do not be afraid, Mary. God is very pleased with you." (Luke 1:28, 30 NIV) And then the angel told Mary something incredible! The angel Gabriel told Mary that she would get pregnant and have a son, but not just any son. This son would be great and would be called the Son of the Most High God!

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ACTIVITIES!

- Memory Verse Activity - Make angel Christmas tree toppers out of construction paper cones. Before forming the paper into a cone, print the memory verse on the construction paper. Be sure to include the reference.
- Continue adding heroes' names and heroic feats to your "Heroes Banner."
- Sing "Go Tell it On the Mountain," "Everybody Ought to Know," "I Will," "O, Come All Ye Faithful," "Silent Night," "O Come, O Come Immanuel" or other Christmas songs related to the lesson.
- Bring angel food cake.
- **For more training:** Review and discuss John 3:16, Acts 16, and Hebrews 11:1, 6 in light of the lesson.
- **For more training:** Read and discuss Mary's Song in Luke 1:46-55.

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“Believe
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and you
will be saved—you
and your household.”

Acts 16:31

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HERO IN TRAINING

A Virgin is Going to Have a Baby!

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HERO TRAINING!

Scripture:

Luke 1:26-56

Memory verse:

They replied, "Believe in the Lord Jesus, and you will be saved—you and your household." (Acts 16:31 NIV)

Our Heroine: _____

What did our hero do that was so heroic? _____

What can you do to be a **Hero of the Faith**? _____



What power do Heroes of the Faith possess?

Do you have the power? _____

Read John 3:16. How do this verses connect with our lesson?

HIDDEN MESSAGE!

Can you crack the code to find the Hidden Message?
Begin at the arrow and cross out the first letter. Then, cross out every other letter. Rewrite the letters that are left in the spaces below to complete the memory verse.

→rbsetkieenvdeuipndtbheelloodrrrdjeejsuussratmndsyloenywupluloesgskalvderdb

They replied,

“ _____,

_____”

you and your household.”

(Acts 16:31 NIV)

WORD

SEARCH!

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| L | E | I | R | B | A | G | L | E | G | N | A | L |
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| T | B | G | G | H | A | D | D | S | A | R | P | N |
| E | I | I | N | E | F | A | E | P | N | E | M | C |
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| E | N | D | G | O | R | S | A | O | D | O | J | N |
| J | H | L | A | S | T | D | M | R | S | S | U | G |

- Mary
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- not impossible
- angel Gabriel
- pregnant
- Lord's servant
- special favor
- Son of God
- Mary believed

HIDDEN MESSAGE!

Answer Page

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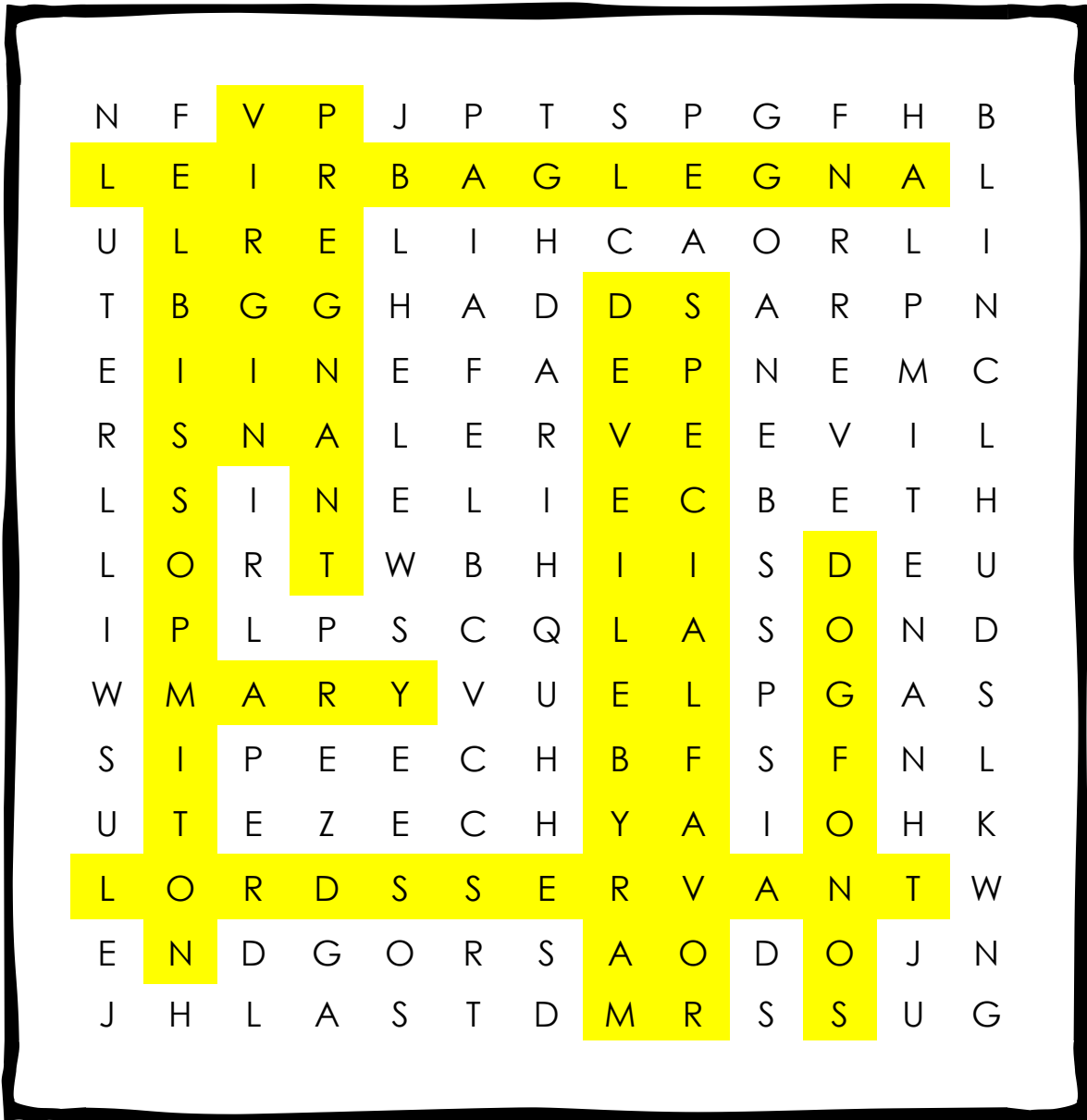
→rbsetkieenvdeuipndtbheelloodrrrdjeejsuussratmndsyloenywupluloesgskalvderdb

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Answer Page



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