

Upper Elementary

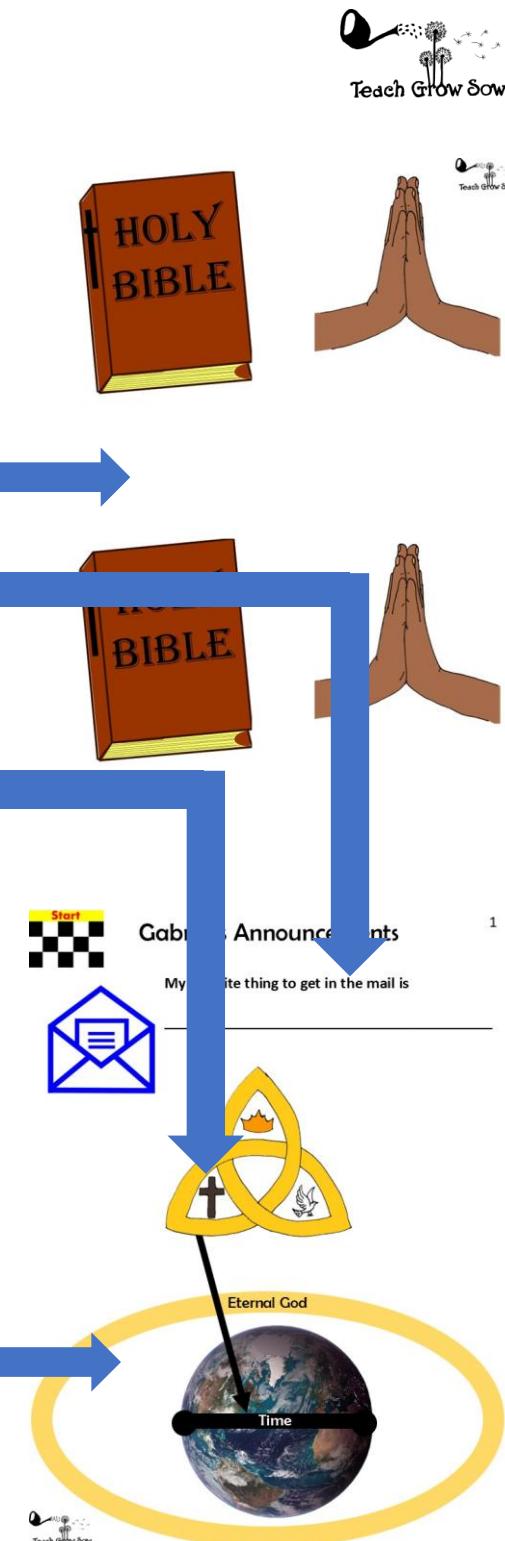
Gabriel's Announcements

All scripture quotations are taken from the World English Bible, 2020.

Checklist

- Christmas card in envelope for each child with "I love you, God" written on the inside and a picture of the Bible and praying hands
- measuring tape
- globe

Topic:	Gabriel's Announcements
Intro:	Show sealed envelopes to students (if possible, write their names on the cards first). Ask if students like getting something in the mail. What is a fun thing to get in the mail (a gift, a card, etc). Who brings the mail? (the postal worker) This person is a messenger. Did they write the letter or buy the gift? (no) Imagine getting a letter in the mail that told you your future. Would you be surprised?
The Trinity	Review the meaning of the Trinity: 1 God, 3 Parts (Persons). We do not worship three separate gods. Jesus is God the Son.
measuring tape and globe in hallway	In a large area, have two children, wearing "Creation" and "End Times" signs, stretch out a measuring tape all the way. Place the globe in the middle. Have another child, wearing "Jesus" sign, walk around them in a circle.
Time	Jesus existed since forever in Heaven with God the Father and God the Holy Spirit. He has no beginning and no end, but at one point, He entered earth's timeline. The Israelites had been waiting for the coming of the Messiah for a very long time. They knew God had promised a rescuer, but they did not know when He would come.



Matthew 1:1, 17	<p>The book of the genealogy of Jesus Christ, the son of David, the son of Abraham...So all the generations from Abraham to David are fourteen generations; from David to the exile to Babylon fourteen generations; and from the carrying away to Babylon to the Christ, fourteen generations.</p>
	<p>Finally, the time had come for the Messiah to arrive. God sent a special messenger ahead. Who were God's messengers in the Bible? (angels) Angels are like God's mailmen. They go wherever God sends them and deliver His messages. They do not say anything except what God wants them to.</p>

HOLY Matthew 1:1, 17

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Each generation in a family is like a step on a ladder, going from the earliest ancestor, to the present. For example, you, your father, and your grandfather represent three generations.



Abraham

David

14 generations

David

Babylon

14 generations

Babylon

Jesus Christ

14 generations



Old Testament, the Hebrew word for angel is *mal'ak*, and in the New Testament, the Greek word is *aggelos*. Both mean "messenger."

Teach Grow Sow



Luke 1:26-33	<p>Now in the sixth month, the angel Gabriel was sent from God to a city of Galilee named Nazareth, to a virgin pledged to be married to a man whose name was Joseph, of David's house. The virgin's name was Mary. Having come in, the angel said to her, "Rejoice, you highly favored one! The Lord is with you. Blessed are you among women!" But when she saw him, she was greatly troubled at the saying, and considered what kind of salutation this might be. The angel said to her, "Don't be afraid, Mary, for you have found favor with God. Behold, you will conceive in your womb and give birth to a son, and shall name him 'Jesus.' He will be great and will be called the Son of the Most High. The Lord God will give him the throne of his father David, and he will reign over the house of Jacob forever. There will be no end to his Kingdom."</p>	<p>Luke 1:26-33</p> <p>Now in the sixth month, the angel Gabriel was sent from God to a city of Galilee named Nazareth, to a virgin pledged to be married to a man whose name was Joseph, of David's house. The virgin's name was Mary. Having come in, the angel said to her, "Rejoice, you highly favored one! The Lord is with you. Blessed are you among women!" But when she saw him, she was greatly troubled at the saying, and considered what kind of salutation this might be. The angel said to her, "Don't be afraid, Mary, for you have found favor with God. Behold, you will conceive in your womb and give birth to a son, and shall name him 'Jesus.' He will be great and will be called the Son of the Most High. The Lord God will give him the throne of his father David, and he will reign over the house of Jacob forever. There will be no end to his Kingdom."</p>
Note to Teacher:	<p>*If children ask for a meaning of the word virgin, a working definition can be "a single girl who cannot have a baby yet." (Thus, why it was an extra special miracle...other women in the Bible had had babies after they no longer could, but this was the only time a girl had a baby <i>before</i> she could)</p>	<p>Mary felt _____</p> <p>The angel assured her by telling her _____</p>
	<p>Imagine being Mary. How would you react to an angel suddenly appearing before you? How did she react to being told God was with her? (she was confused) What did the angel reassure her? (Don't be afraid, God is pleased with you)</p>	

	What incredible things did Gabriel promise about Jesus? (He would be king, He would rule forever, His kingdom would never end)	
Luke 1:34-38	<p>Mary said to the angel, "How can this be, seeing I am a virgin?" The angel answered her, "The Holy Spirit will come on you, and the power of the Most High will overshadow you. Therefore, also the holy one who is born from you will be called the Son of God. Behold, Elizabeth your relative also has conceived a son in her old age; and this is the sixth month with her who was called barren. For nothing spoken by God is impossible." Mary said, "Behold, the servant of the Lord; let it be done to me according to your word." Then the angel departed from her.</p>	<p style="text-align: right;">3</p> <p><input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Be great and be called the _____.</p> <p><input checked="" type="checkbox"/> The Lord God will give Him the _____ of His ancestor David.</p> <p><input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Reign over the House of _____ forever.</p>
	<p>God's message to Mary was that she would have a son who would be king. Mary and Joseph may have been descendants of King David, but they were poor, simple people, who did not live at all like royalty. Why did Mary not understand how she could have a son? (she expected to get married before having a baby) Gabriel explained that this would be a miracle and gave an example of another miracle that had just happened in her family.</p>	<p>Mary said to the angel, "How can this be, seeing I am a virgin?" The angel answered her, "The Holy Spirit will come on you, and the power of the Most High will overshadow you. Therefore, also the holy one who is born from you will be called the Son of God. Behold, Elizabeth your relative also has conceived a son in her old age; and this is the sixth month with her who was called barren. For nothing spoken by God is impossible." Mary said, "Behold, the servant of the Lord; let it be done to me according to your word." Then the angel departed from her.</p> <p></p>
	<p>How did Mary react to all of this? (she said she's the Lord's servant) What does this attitude say about her? Mary probably had plans for what she thought her life would be like. God was blessing her, but it also meant her life would become difficult. Did Mary think about how this would affect her life? (no) How did she respond? (Let it happen as God said)</p>	

	<p>Mary said, "My soul magnifies the Lord. My spirit has rejoiced in God my Savior, for he has looked at the humble state of his servant. For behold, from now on, all generations will call me blessed. For he who is mighty has done great things for me. Holy is his name. His mercy is for generations and generations on those who fear him. He has shown strength with his arm."</p>	<p>Luke 1:46-55</p> <p> Luke 1:46-55</p> <p>Mary said, "My soul magnifies the Lord. My spirit has rejoiced in God my Savior, for he has looked at the humble state of his servant. For behold, from now on, all generations will call me blessed. For he who is mighty has done great things for me. Holy is his name. His mercy is for generations and generations on those who fear him. He has shown strength with his arm. He has scattered the proud in the imagination of their hearts. He has put down princes from their thrones, and has exalted the lowly. He has filled the hungry with good things. He has sent the rich away empty. He has given help to Israel, his servant, that he might remember mercy, as he spoke to our fathers, to Abraham and his offspring forever."</p>
	<p>Mary reacted with words that expressed how much she loved and respected God. She gave thanks to God and praised Him for all He did for His people. She didn't think this made her special or important, just blessed. Her attitude was completely humble and grateful. What kinds of things would we do if we thought of ourselves as God's servants?</p>	<p>What kinds of things would we do if we thought of ourselves as God's servants?</p> <hr/>

	<p>But when he thought about these things, behold, an angel of the Lord appeared to him in a dream, saying, "Joseph, son of David, don't be afraid to take to yourself Mary as your wife, for that which is conceived in her is of the Holy Spirit. She shall give birth to a son. You shall name him Jesus, for it is he who shall save his people from their sins." Now all this has happened that it might be fulfilled which was spoken by the Lord through the prophet, saying, "Behold, the virgin shall be with child, and shall give birth to a son. They shall call his name Immanuel," which is, being interpreted, "God with us." Joseph arose from his sleep, and did as the angel of the Lord commanded him, and took his wife to himself.</p>
	<p>Joseph also had plans for his life. He expected that he and Mary would have a baby after they got married, and that it would be his son. But the angel who came to visit him told him God wanted him to help raise God's Son.</p>
	<p>How did Joseph react? (he did what he was told and married Mary) What did this show about him? (he was obedient, he believed God's message)</p>
	<p>Have each child say their first, middle and last name. Ask how they got their names (after a grandparent, a place, a character in a book). Why are names important?</p>
	<p>What are the different names given for the baby Mary would have in these passages? (Jesus, Son of God Most High, the Messiah, Immanuel)</p>

Matthew 1:20-24

When he thought about these things, behold, an angel of the Lord appeared to him in a dream, saying, "Joseph, son of David, don't be afraid to take to yourself Mary as your wife, for that which is conceived in her is of the Holy Spirit. She shall give birth to a son. You shall name him Jesus, for it is he who shall save his people from their sins." Now all this has happened that it might be fulfilled which was spoken by the Lord through the prophet, saying, "Behold, the virgin shall be with child, and shall give birth to a son. They shall call his name Immanuel," which is, being interpreted, "God with us." Joseph arose from his sleep, and did as the angel of the Lord commanded him, and took his wife to himself.

He will be called...

5

Teach Grow Sow

Jesus (Yeshua in Hebrew) : a common Jewish boy name

Son of God Most High: this confirms Jesus is God's Son

Messiah: "Savior" or "Rescuer"

Immanuel: "God with us"

 There are about 200 titles given to Jesus in the Bible.

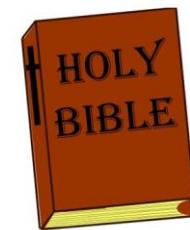
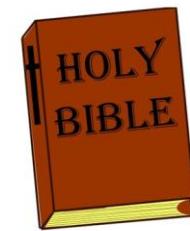
HELLO
MY NAME IS:



Joseph and Mary had very different plans for their life. They probably planned for Jesus to be born at home in Nazareth. They probably thought other people would be around to help them. But God had a different plan. Bethlehem was the hometown of King David. God wanted to make sure people understood that Jesus was special. What are some of the ways He made it obvious? (having Jesus born in Bethlehem, the descendant of King David, making His birth a miracle, having another miracle birth in the same family around the same time, etc.)

Give Christmas cards to each child to open. Explain that God most often speaks to us through the Bible and prayer. If we want to know His plan for our lives, praying and reading the Bible are the best ways to learn it. Sometimes God's plan for our lives is different from our plan. How should we react if it becomes obvious that God's plan is different? (be obedient, show humility, trust

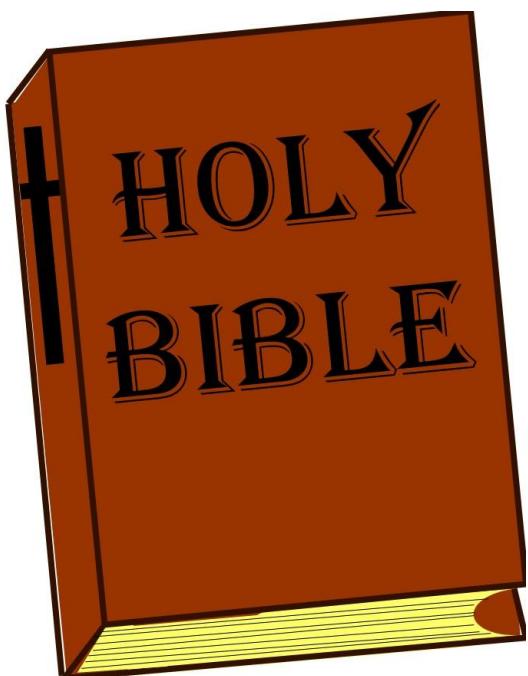
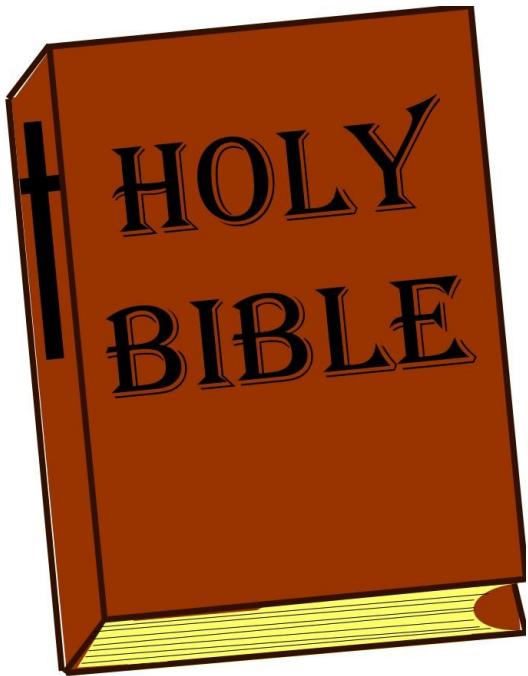
Closing: that God's plan is best)

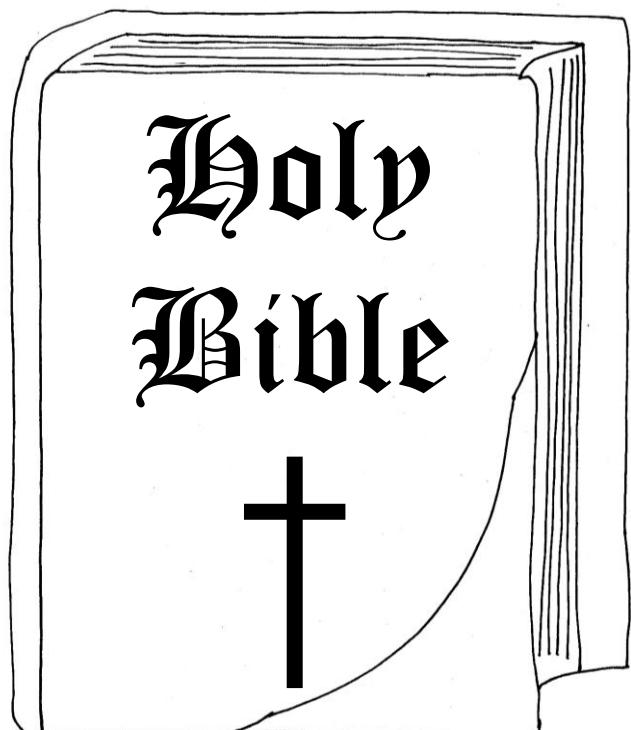
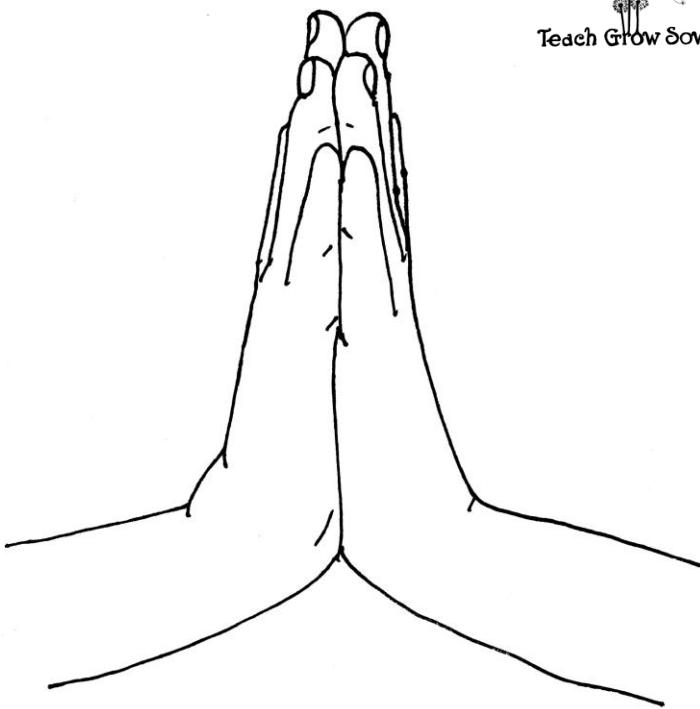
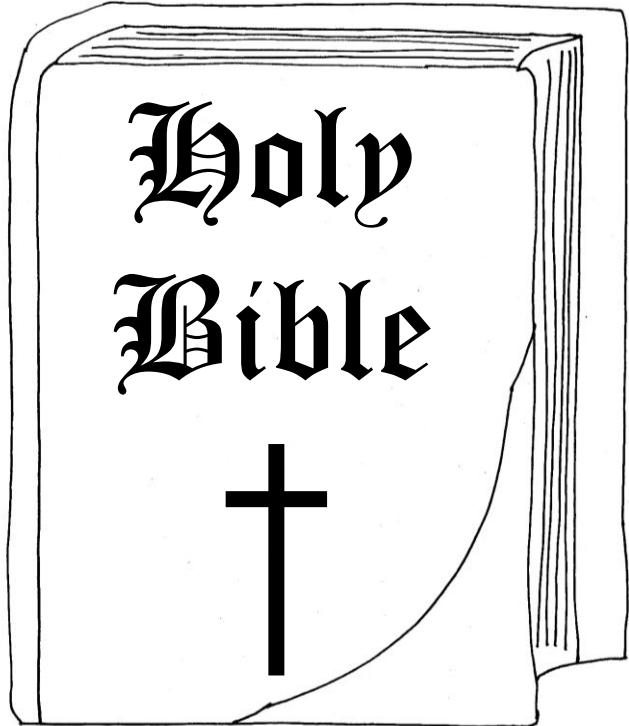


CREATION

NEW
HEAVEN
AND NEW
EARTH

耶穌



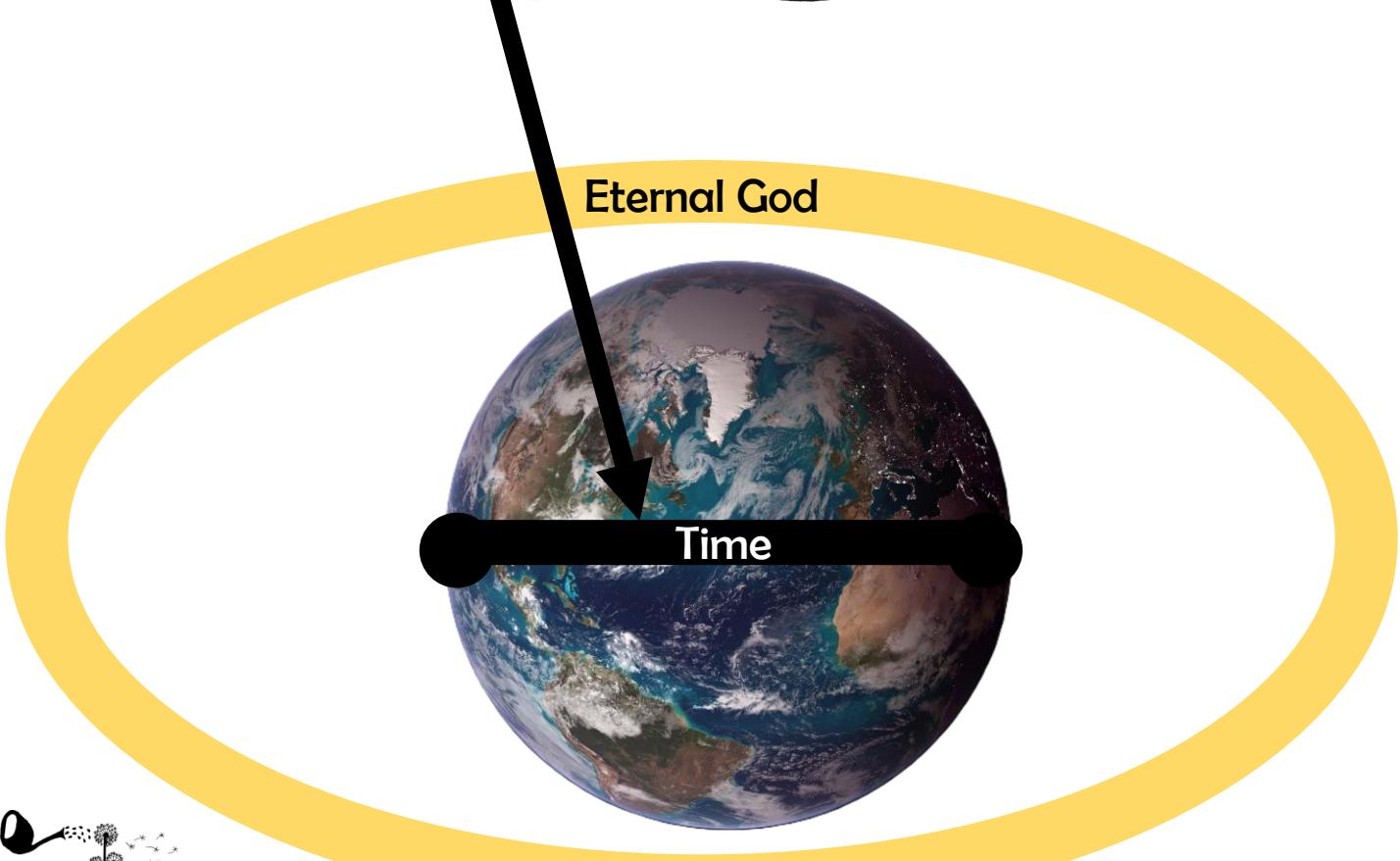


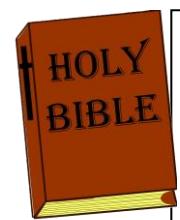


Gabriel's Announcements



My favorite thing to get in the mail is _____



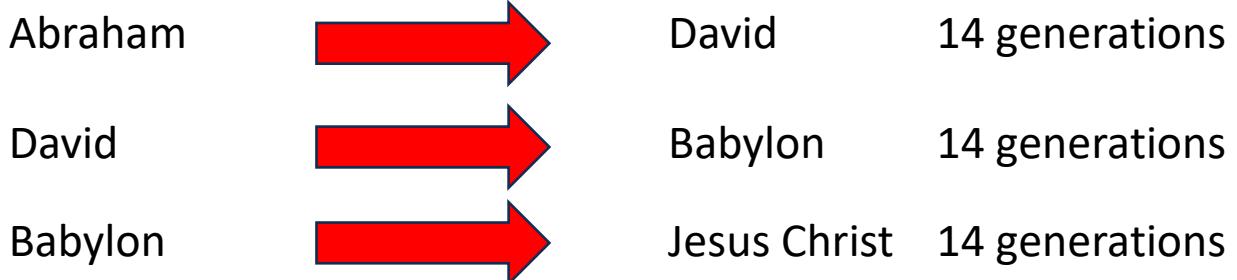
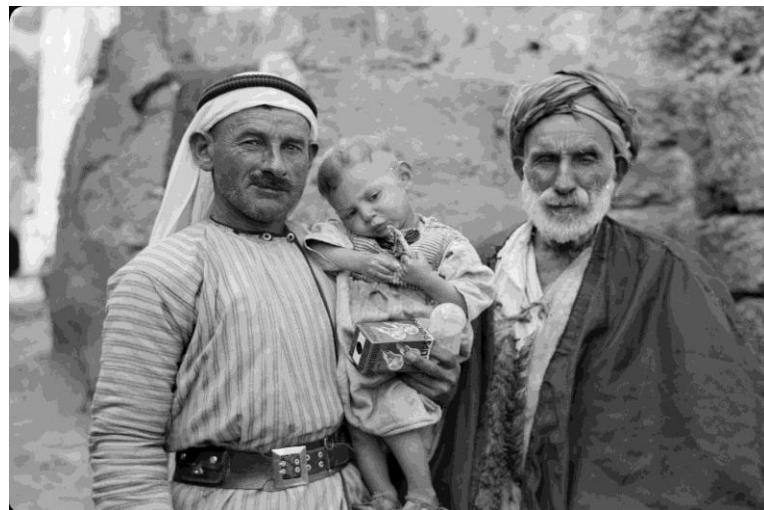


Matthew 1:1, 17

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Each generation in a family is like a step on a ladder, going from the earliest ancestor, to the present. For example, you, your father, and your grandfather represent three generations.



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Luke 1:26-33

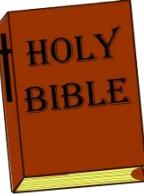
Now in the sixth month, the angel Gabriel was sent from God to a city of Galilee named Nazareth, to a virgin pledged to be married to a man whose name was Joseph, of David's house. The virgin's name was Mary. Having come in, the angel said to her, "Rejoice, you highly favored one! The Lord is with you. Blessed are you among women!" But when she saw him, she was greatly troubled at the saying, and considered what kind of salutation this might be. The angel said to her, "Don't be afraid, Mary, for you have found favor with God. Behold, you will conceive in your womb and give birth to a son, and shall name him 'Jesus.' He will be great and will be called the Son of the Most High. The Lord God will give him the throne of his father David, and he will reign over the house of Jacob forever. There will be no end to his Kingdom."

Mary felt _____

The angel assured her by telling her _____

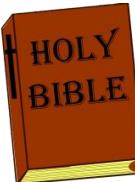
Jesus will:

- ✓ **Be great and be called the _____.**
- ✓ **The Lord God will give Him the _____ of His ancestor David.**
- ✓ **Reign over the House of _____ forever.**



Luke 1:34-38

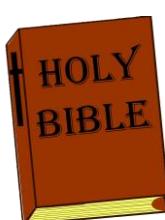
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Luke 1:46-55

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Gabriel's Announcements



Name: _____

J	O	S	E	P	H	X	Z	S	A
E	S	I	M	M	A	N	U	E	L
S	D	I	O	P	L	C	K	R	E
U	F	U	Y	W	T	V	J	V	A
S	A	V	I	O	R	B	H	A	R
V	G	C	X	R	I	N	G	N	S
B	H	A	Z	D	N	M	F	T	I
N	G	A	B	R	I	E	L	D	S
M	J	Q	W	E	T	R	T	Y	U
L	K	M	A	R	Y	L	P	O	I
H	O	L	Y	S	P	I	R	I	T

GABRIEL
MARY
JOSEPH
JESUS
IMMANUEL
SAVIOR

ISRAEL
SERVANT
HOLY SPIRIT
TRINITY
WORD