

Lesson 22: An Angel Frees Peter from Jail

[Acts 12:1-18](#)

Youtube Link: <https://youtu.be/AvypoXMHlHk>

Children's Bible Story Video: <https://youtu.be/YJnqQ3ohbjo>

Worship Theme: God sends angels to help us.

Memory Verse: "For he will command his angels concerning you to guard you in all your ways." (Psalm 91:11)

Songs (Youtube links):

1. Jesus Is the Lord <https://youtu.be/l-PzUIJ0MVo>
2. In the Name of Jesus <https://youtu.be/0b41QksexPE>
3. I Can Do All Thing Through Christ <https://youtu.be/RATi7KCmIvM>

Pray

Song: Select songs from the list above.

Icebreaker: Pop the Balloon

Materials needed: Balloon, strings (to tie the children's ankles)



1. Pair up the children.
2. Teacher ties the children's legs in pairs and tie the balloon to the children's other ankle.
3. The children use their feet to pop the balloon of another group, but they also need to protect their own balloon from the other group.
4. After the game, explain that what we cannot do alone, we can do it with help from others. In the same way, Jesus sends angels to help us.

Introduction: What Does the Bible Say About Angels?

Material Needed: Print the bible verses and cut them out (see below to print)

1 Kings 19:5-6 Then he lay down under the bush and fell asleep. All at once an angel touched him and said, "Get up and eat." He looked around, and there by the head of the bush bread baked over hot coals, and a jar of water. He ate and drank and then lay down again. The angel of the LORD came back a second time and touched him and said, "Get up and eat, for the journey is too much for you." So he got up and ate and drank, strengthened by that food. He traveled forty days and forty nights until he reached Horeb, the mountain of God.	Daniel 10:5-6,14 I looked up and there before me was a man dressed in linen, with a sash of fine purple around his waist. His face was like lightning, his hair like lightning, his arms and legs like the gleam of burnished bronze, and his voice like the sound of a multitude of waters. Now I have come to explain to you what will happen to your people in the future, for the vision concerns a time yet to come.
Isaiah 63:9-10 He saved us from our enemies, children who will be true to Him, and so He became their Savior. In all their distress He was distressed, and the angel of His presence saved them in His love and mercy. He rescued them from all their distress, and He lifted them up and carried them all the days of old.	Matthew 1:20, 24 But after he had considered this, an angel of the Lord appeared to him in a dream and said, "Joseph son of David, do not be afraid to take Mary home as your wife, because what is conceived in her is from the Holy Spirit. When Joseph woke up, he did what the angel of the Lord had commanded him and took Mary home as his wife.
Matthew 4:6 "If you are the Son of God," he said, "throw yourself down. For it is written: 'The angels will lift you up in their hands, and they will lift you up on their hands, so that you will not strike your foot against a stone.'"	Matthew 2:13 When Herod had gone, an angel of the Lord appeared to Joseph in a dream. "Get up," he said, "take the child and his mother and escape to Egypt. Stay there until I tell you, for Herod is going to search for the child to kill him."
Psalms 34:7 The angel of the LORD encamps around those who love Him, and He delivers them.	Luke 22:43 An angel from heaven appeared to him and said, "Get up, hurry, get away from here, because your hour has come."
John 20:12 And other angels in white, dressed when dead! Forty had been, one at the head and the other at the foot.	Hebrews 1:14 Are not angels ministering spirits sent to serve those who will inherit salvation?
Acts 8:26 Now an angel of the Lord said to Philip, "Go south to the road that goes from Jerusalem to Gaza." So he got up and went.	Revelation 22:8-9 I, John, am the one who heard and saw these things. Now I tell them and bear them. I fell down to worship at the feet of the angel who had been showing them to me.

Have you ever seen a prisoner? Have you ever seen an angel? What is an angel?

1. Divide the children into groups of 3-4 and give them 1 or 2 bible verses
2. Ask them to read the verses and explain what the bible says about angels
3. After reading the verses, children should be able to see that angels help and protect humans or send us

God's messages. Because of his great love, he sends his angels to help us. Let's learn about a story when God sent an angel to help Peter!

Bible Story:

Long ago, King Herod arrested one of Jesus' disciples and put him in jail. The disciple's name was Peter. When Peter's friends learned that Peter was in jail, they were very upset. Peter's friends prayed for Peter and asked God to keep him safe. God heard their prayers. He sent someone special to set Peter free from jail. The special person God sent to help Peter was an angel! We don't know the angel's name, but he appeared while Peter was sleeping. There was a bright light in the jail. The angel woke Peter up, and Peter's chains fell off! He told Peter to get up and get dressed. Then the angel led Peter out of jail, past the guards, and safely to his friend's house! No one seemed to see Peter getting out of jail! Even Peter thought he was dreaming until he got out to the streets. This was a miracle! God answered the prayers that Peter's friends prayed for him by sending an angel to help Peter! God sends angels for us even today! He knows when we need help, and the angels are there to do whatever he says. Most of the time, we don't even know when they help us. We can't see angels unless God wants us to see them. That's because too many people would

worship angels instead of God. Angels only go where God sends them, and they do only what he tells them to do. And God commands angels to help us! God loves us so much!

Think of something in your life where you need God's help. Maybe you need help to do better in school, obey your parents, or follow God more faithfully. Maybe you have to do something difficult this week or someone you love needs God's help. Some of you may need the help of angels this week. If you do, God will send them, because God sends angels. Whether he sends angels or not, God will take care of all your needs. God is good!

Questions to discuss:

1. Who got arrested by King Herod? (Peter)
2. What did Peter's friend do when they heard that Peter was in jail? (They prayed)
3. Who came to help Peter get out of jail? (An angel)
4. Who sent the angel? (God)
5. Do you think God would send an angel to help you? (Yes/No) What help do you need from God right now? (Let the children answer)

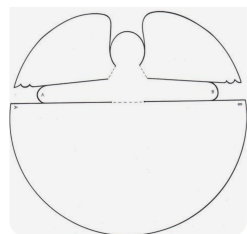
Game: True? or False?

1. Everyone needs to stand in the middle of the room.
2. If what the teacher says about angels is true, walk to the back of the room.
3. If what the teacher says is false, walk to the front of the room.
4. If you don't know, stay in the center of the room.
 - Angels are God's servants. (True)
 - Angels are powerful. (True)
 - Angels are as powerful as God. (False - they only do what God commands them to do)
 - Angels want to be worshipped. (False - angels want to worship God)
 - People can be angels. (False - people are different from angels)
 - Angels have wings and halos. (The Bible doesn't say)
 - Angels are God's messengers. (True)
 - Angels can do whatever they want. (False - they do only what God commands them to do)
 - Angels protect and defend us. (True)
5. Remember, God sends angels because he loves us. We may never see an angel in our lives, but we can be sure that they are around us, walk with us, and watch over us. Even though they do amazing things, we never worship angels. They are only created beings, like we are. God is the one to worship and praise. He is the Creator of us all.

Memory Verse: "For he will command his angels concerning you to guard you in all your ways." (Psalm 91:11)

Craft: God Sends Angels to Help Us!

Material Needed: Print the angel pattern for each child (see below to print)



1. Decorate the angel and cut out solid lines.
2. Fold the dotted lines and glue A and B together (see example of the completed angel)
3. Remind the children that God sends angels to help them!



Song: Select songs from the list above

Pray

Teacher's Devotion (Please read before you get ready to teach the students.)

You are in a relationship with Jesus who knows everything and cannot be conquered. God moves and works miracles for those who pray in accordance with his will. How can you best use this strength you have in Jesus as a Christian?

“What Does God Say About Angels?”

<p>1 Kings 19:5-8 Then he lay down under the bush and fell asleep. All at once an angel touched him and said, “Get up and eat.” He looked around, and there by his head was some bread baked over hot coals, and a jar of water. He ate and drank and then lay down again. The angel of the LORD came back a second time and touched him and said, “Get up and eat, for the journey is too much for you.” So he got up and ate and drank. Strengthened by that food, he traveled forty days and forty nights until he reached Horeb, the mountain of God.</p>	<p>Daniel 10:5-6,14 I looked up and there before me was a man dressed in linen, with a belt of the finest gold around his waist. His body was like chrysolite, his face like lightning, his eyes like flaming torches, his arms and legs like the gleam of burnished bronze, and his voice like the sound of a multitude...Now I have come to explain to you what will happen to your people in the future, for the vision concerns a time yet to come.</p>
<p>Isaiah 63:8-9 He said, “Surely they are my people, children who will be true to me”; and so he became their Savior. In all their distress he too was distressed, and the angel of his presence saved them. In his love and mercy he redeemed them; he lifted them up and carried them all the days of old.</p>	<p>Matthew 1:20, 24 But after he had considered this, an angel of the Lord appeared to him in a dream and said, “Joseph son of David, do not be afraid to take Mary home as your wife, because what is conceived in her is from the Holy Spirit...When Joseph woke up, he did what the angel of the Lord had commanded him and took Mary home as his wife.</p>
<p>Matthew 4:6 “If you are the Son of God,” he said, “throw yourself down. For it is written: “‘He will command his angels concerning you, and they will lift you up in their hands, so that you will not strike your foot against a stone.’”</p>	<p>Matthew 2:13 When they had gone, an angel of the Lord appeared to Joseph in a dream. “Get up,” he said, “take the child and his mother and escape to Egypt. Stay there until I tell you, for Herod is going to search for the child to kill him.”</p>
<p>Psalms 34:7 The angel of the LORD encamps around those who fear him, and he delivers them.</p>	<p>Luke 22:43 An angel from heaven appeared to him and strengthened him.</p>
<p>John 20:12 and saw two angels in white, seated where Jesus’ body had been, one at the head and the other at the foot.</p>	<p>Hebrews 1:14 Are not all angels ministering spirits sent to serve those who will inherit salvation?</p>
<p>Acts 8:26 Now an angel of the Lord said to Philip, “Go south to the road—the desert road—that goes down from Jerusalem to Gaza.”</p>	<p>Revelation 22:8-9 I, John, am the one who heard and saw these things. And when I had heard and seen them, I fell down to worship at the feet of the angel who had been showing them to me.</p>

