

The Christmas Story Part 1... The Announcement

English Corner - Christmas

The next 3 lessons are about the real story of Christmas.

Hot Topics

1. Do you celebrate Christmas in your country? If so, how?
2. Where are you going to have Christmas in Australia?

Vocabulary

Pictionary:

Take one vocabulary card each. Look at the definition and then draw the meaning on the other side of the card. In pairs, show the drawing to your partner they have to guess the word. Then show the rest of the group your word and definition as you read the story.



Christmas is the story of God's love. God sent His Son, Jesus Christ to earth to be our Saviour so that we can have a relationship with God. This is the first part of the Christmas story. Read through together once to check for understanding. Then act out the story. You need two Narrators, an Angel, Mary, Joseph and a prophet. Mat. 1:18-25 (DB)

Narrator1: God sent an angel Gabriel to Nazareth, a town in Galilee, to a virgin engaged to a man named Joseph. The virgin's name was Mary.

The angel went to her and said:

Angel: Greetings, you who are highly favoured! The Lord is with you.

Narrator2: Mary was confused by the angel's words and wondered what they meant. But the angel said to her:

Angel: Don't be afraid! God is pleased with you, and you will have a son. His name will be Jesus. He will be great and will be called the Son of God Most High. The Lord God will make him King, and his kingdom will never end.

Narrator1: Mary asked the angel:

Mary: How can this happen? I'm not married and I am a virgin!

Angel: 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. Nothing is impossible for God!

Mary: I am the Lord's servant. Let it happen as you have said.

Joseph Learns the Truth:

Narrator 2: Joseph found out that Mary was pregnant – even though he hadn't had sex with her. Joseph was a good man and didn't want to embarrass Mary in front of everyone. So he decided to quietly call off the wedding. But while he was sleeping he had a dream and an angel of the Lord appeared to him and said:

Angel: Joseph, the baby that Mary will have is from the Holy Spirit. Go ahead and marry her. Then after her baby is born, name him Jesus, because he will save people from their sins.

Narrator 1: All this took place to fulfill what the Lord had said through the prophet a long time ago:

Prophet: *The virgin (a person who has not had sex) will be with child and will give birth to a son, and they will call him Immanuel -*

Narrator 2: Which means 'God is with us'. When Joseph woke up, he and Mary were soon married, just as the Lord's angel had told him to do.

Discussion Questions:

1. Mary was engaged to Joseph. What is the role of engagement in your country?
2. In your culture what happens to women who become pregnant before they are married? What happens to the child? (In pairs)
3. What does the name Jesus mean? What does your name mean? (in threes)
4. How is this pregnancy different from other pregnancies?
5. God is 'with us' - what does that mean? How does this affect the way we live?

Vocabulary Cards for Christmas Story Part 1

Engaged Promised to be married	Embarrassed Someone who is feeling shy or ashamed.
Angel A spiritual creature, like a human with wings who lies in heaven with God.	Confused Unable to understand something
King A male ruler of a country	Servant Someone who works for or serves another person
Pregnant A woman who is expecting a baby	Dream To experience images and events in your mind while you are sleeping