

Annunciation (Say Yes to God Lesson)

Objectives: Children will review the story of the Annunciation with a video

-Children will discuss, illustrate, and or write ways that they can Say Yes to God, especially during a time when it may be hard to.

-Children will review the Hail Mary

Materials: link to videos, and jokes, Say Yes to God template, coloring sheets

Method and Assessment:

Intro taken from Future Flying Saucers website, object lesson on the Annunciation

- 1) **“Do you like to laugh?”** Do you like to tell jokes? **Read a few jokes** from this link and enjoy them with the children.
<https://margaretfeinberg.com/23-of-the-best-bible-jokes-riddles/> “God created us to smile and laugh. He enjoys us and likes to bless us. And while I think God has a great sense of humor, I do not think God jokes around. If you think about it, jokes are meant to trick someone, or make fun of something. And God doesn’t do that. He never tricks us. He is always honest with us. That was what Mary found out.”
- 2) **Tell children that today is the feast of the Annunciation.** That is a big word. It means to announce. Today we remember that Mary said Yes to God when the angel Gabriel visited her. Here are a few options of videos
- 3) **For older children** (4 minutes) <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=Qq7NFizL6ak>
Focuses on the interaction between Gabriel and Mary
- 4) **For younger children** (13 minutes)
<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=6kMUAaE-wJU&t=302s> Focuses on the backstory of St. Anne, Mary’s schooling, her marriage to Joseph, the Annunciation, and events afterwards.
- 5) After the video, **ask questions** such as 1) Why may have it been scary for Mary to say Yes to God? 2) What do you think would have happened if she said No.
- 6) We are all asked to say Yes to God sometimes. **Share a story when you said Yes to God.** Explain to the children that sometimes it is hard to say Yes to God. Even right now, it may be difficult to do so. Discuss this.
- 7) Have children refer to the **“Say Yes to God” template.** I have also included a coloring sheet with the story printed. Choose how little or how much of the Say Yes to God template you would like your child to complete. Have your child explain drawings or read writing aloud.
- 8) In closing, recite the Hail Mary prayer with your children. A link to the Hail Mary for children is https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=1fANA0zT_10&t=10s
- 9) **Assessment:** What are ways we can Say Yes to God even in challenging times.

Say "Yes!" to God!

In the city of Nazareth, in Galilee, there lived a young woman named Mary. Mary was soon to marry a carpenter named Joseph.

One day Gabriel, an angel, visited Mary and said: "Greetings, most favored one, and do not be afraid. God has chosen you among all women. Very soon you will have a baby, you must call him Jesus"

This would be a very special baby. He would be great, and his kingdom would last forever and ever. He told her that the child would be called the Son of God.

Mary bowed before the angel Gabriel and told him she would be obedient to God and that she wanted to do as God wished. When she got up the angel had gone.



Say "Yes!" to God!

Mary Said Yes to God! Discuss ways that you can say "Yes!" to God! Then draw a picture of the one you chose! Older grades: write a paragraph to support your illustration.


