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**Week 2: Angels**

**INTRODUCTION**

In the Christmas story, the angels help to focus the spotlight on certain characters; they bring attention to certain situations while remaining in the background. Often, their appearance was startling. As an opening exercise, talk about a time when someone’s sudden appearance startled you or caused you to be afraid.

**DISCUSSION QUESTIONS**

1. Read Luke 1:26-38. The angel Gabriel told Mary that she was highly favored. What do you think it would be like for God to send an angel to you and call you highly favored? How do you think you’d react?
2. The angel told Mary she would be the mother to the Messiah. What do you think it would be like to be chosen for a task by God? Has this every happened to you? What was the task? How did it go?
3. The angel prompted Mary to submit to God’s plan of salvation. She agreed. God has a divine message of salvation for you as well, talk about your willingness to follow along with His plan.
4. Read Luke 2:8-15. The angels song to the shepherds offers peace from the past, talk about anything from your past that still brings you pain/shame/guilt.
5. Jesus gives his followers peace unlike anything we can find anywhere else. Talk about areas of your life that you need more peace in?

**STEPPING FORWARD**

This week embrace the peace that Jesus offers you. If there is anything that is weighing you down from your past, talk to Him about it and ask for forgiveness. If there are any areas of your life that lack peace, how can you better turn those areas over to him?

*For to us a child is born, to us a son is given, and the government will be on his shoulders. And he will be called Wonderful Counselor, Mighty God, Everlasting Father, Prince of Peace*

**Isaiah 9:6**