**Theme:** Angels from the realms of glory –

- The role of the angels

**Resources:**

* Name labels
* Pens
* Ice breaker PowerPoint questions
* Prayer cards
* Video countdown timer
* Game resources - Quiz
* Large home-made advent calendar
* Chocolates
* Angel and Mary video clip
* Three angel stories from the Gospels (several copies on separate sheets)
* Angel craft making materials
* ‘Angels from the realms of Glory’ or ‘Hark the herald angel sings’ video hymn

| **Time** | **Who?** | **Item** | **Length** |
| --- | --- | --- | --- |
|  |  | **Doors open and ice breaker questions on screen** | 25 min |
|  |  | **Video Countdown Timer** | 5 min |
|  |  | **Game** | 10 min |
|  |  | Christmas film Quiz. Note: For this Christmas series, we used a quiz from YouTube with 100 questions. URL: <https://youtu.be/Kg2ulnD-XXo> | |
|  |  | **Notices & encouragements** | 5 min |
|  |  | **Whole group activity** | 5 min |
|  |  | Open the Ignite advent calendar, explain theme (angels) and hand out chocs. Note: *Your advent calendar should be large and homemade, with each week’s theme depicted with a picture etc.* | |
|  |  | **Whole group activity** | 6 min |
|  |  | Mark out a long ‘0 – 100’ scale on the floor, and invite people to stand somewhere along the scale, to show how much they believe in angels, with ‘0’ being ‘don’t believe at all, to ‘100’ meaning ‘completely believe’. Then take feedback from folk. | |
|  |  | **Video clip** | 4 min |
|  |  | Angel speaking to Mary URL: <https://youtu.be/Z1OLLwtCqtM> |  |
|  |  | **Link** | 3 min |
|  |  | Say something like, *‘While some of us may find it difficult to believe in angels, there are lots of instances in the Bible, where angels have appeared and spoken to many different people. So, as far as Christians are concerned, they are very much real!’* | |
|  |  | **Table group discussion** | 8 min |
|  |  | Hand out one of three New Testament angel stories, to each table group. Ask them to discuss the following question: what is the role / job of the angel? What makes this story important? Then feedback. | |
|  |  | **Sum-up feedback** | 3 min |
|  |  | **Individual craft activity** | 10 min |
|  |  | Making an angel. Note: *There are various examples of ‘angel making’ crafts on the internet. Please find one that suits your congregation.* | |
|  |  | **Whole group activity** | 4 min |
|  |  | Explain that as we have been thinking about angels, and so as we are also getting into the festive spirit, we thought that we should finish this evening by singing the first verse and chorus of ‘Angels from the realms of glory’ / ‘Hark the herald angel sings.’ It will be good practice for all the other carols that you’ll be singing in the coming few weeks! | |
|  |  | **Sum-up, final prayer, and finish** | 2 min |
|  |  | **End** |  |

**Theme:** The role of the wise men

- ‘We three Kings…’

**Resources:**

* Ice breaker questions PowerPoint
* Name labels
* Pens
* Food for meal
* Video countdown timer
* Secular game resources
* Home-made advent calendar and chocolates
* Sketch scripts for three people
* Props
* Downloaded ‘Yakkity-Yak’ music
* Prepared talk
* Small gift box template
* Pens,
* Glue sticks or Sellotape
* ‘We three kings’ video song

| **Time** | **Who?** | **Item** | **Length** |
| --- | --- | --- | --- |
|  |  | **Doors open, Ice breaker questions on screen** | 30 min |
|  |  | **Meal** | 30 min |
|  |  | **Video Countdown Timer** | 5 min |
|  |  | **Game** | 10 min |
|  |  | Christmas film Quiz. **Note:** For this Christmas series, we used a quiz from YouTube with 100 questions. URL: <https://youtu.be/Kg2ulnD-XXo> | |
|  |  | **Notices & Encouragements** | 5 min |
|  |  | **Advent calendar** | 5 min |
|  |  | **Note:** Your advent calendar should be large and homemade, with each week’s theme depicted with a picture etc. Open up next box, explain the theme (the wise men), and hand out chocs. | |
|  |  | **Sketch** | 5 min |
|  |  | About the three wise men who go shopping for presents for Jesus. | |
|  |  | **Note:** You will need the ‘Yakkity-Yak’ music from the Benny Hill comedy programmes, for when the Kings are rushing around. URL:<https://youtu.be/3WShMzwT-nM> | |
|  |  | **Table discussion** | 6 min |
|  |  | Ask the question, ‘why did the wise men/kings go and see Jesus?’ Then feedback. | |
|  |  | **Talk** | 5 min |
|  |  | This would be done best as a semi-adlibbed talk, based on the feedback from the previous table discussion. | |
|  |  | **Craft activity** | 10 min |
|  |  | Making a gift box. Before guests stick the box together, invite them to write on the inside of the box, what kind of personal ‘gift’ they would like to offer Jesus. Put up PowerPoint with possible suggestions. Guests can choose to either take their box home or leave it to decorate the church. **Note:** *Various ‘gift box craft activities’ are available on the internet – find one that is most suitable for your congregation.* | |
|  |  | **Carol sing-song finish** | 4 min |
|  |  | Sing along to video carol ‘We three kings’, pause after 1st verse and say goodbye etc, and then finish carol if time allows. URL: <https://youtu.be/zNBbCkDMSLw> | |
|  |  | **End** |  |

**Theme:** The role of the shepherds

While shepherds watched their flocks

**Resources:**

* Name labels
* Pens
* Ice breaker PowerPoint questions
* Prayer cards
* Video countdown timer
* Christmas song quiz
* Home-made advent calendar & chocs
* Secular game resources
* Jewish shepherd video clip
* Shepherd sketch scripts x 2
* Semi prepared talk
* Sheep-making craft activity resources
* ‘While shepherds watched’ video song with lyrics

| **Time** | **Who?** | **Item** | **Length** |
| --- | --- | --- | --- |
|  |  | **Doors open and ice breaker questions on screen** | 25 min |
|  |  | **Video Countdown Timer** | 5 min |
|  |  | **The secular game** | 10 min |
|  |  | Christmas film Quiz. **Note:** For this Christmas series, we used a quiz from YouTube with 100 questions. URL: <https://youtu.be/Kg2ulnD-XXo> | |
|  |  | **Notices & encouragements** | 5 min |
|  |  | ‘Big-up’ Christmas party on 22nd December. Remind folk that there’s no Ignite on 29th December, so will be back on 5th Jan. | |
|  |  | **Advent calendar, theme, and chocs** | 5 min |
|  |  | **Note:** Your advent calendar should be large and homemade, with each week’s theme depicted with a picture etc. Open up next box, explain the theme (shepherds), and hand out chocs. | |
|  |  | **Video clip** | 3 min |
|  |  | Short film about a modern-day Jewish shepherd. URL: <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=vz7-Xdy9xBc> | |
|  |  | **Table discussion** | 6 min |
|  |  | What do you know about the life of a shepherd? Then feedback. | |
|  |  | **Sketch** | 5 min |
|  |  | Sketch about two shepherds | |
|  |  | **Table discussion** | 6 min |
|  |  | Why did God send the shepherds to see baby Jesus? Then feedback. | |
|  |  | **Sum-up, ad-libbed talk** | 5 min |
|  |  | **Craft activity** | 10 min |
|  |  | Making a model sheep. **Note:** *there are many different sheep crafts available online. Use one that is appropriate to your congregation* | |
|  |  | **Whole group activity** | 3 min |
|  |  | Sing ‘While shepherds watched their flocks’, <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=EdASbgux6ds> Then pray, and finish | |
|  |  | **End** |  |