**Session 1**

**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** |  |