



ADVENT'S
Angels

A Women's Bible Study in Four Sessions

DONNA STREUFERT

**Creative
Communications
Sample**

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Advent is a time for penitence and preparation, a time of anticipation and great joy. In spite of our sin and sorrow, our loving God has turned the tables on Satan! How? God kept his promise to save us by sending his Son, Jesus, to be our Savior.

In these four Advent lessons you will hear again how God's grace (his love for undeserving sinners) is always at work. God is at work in the lives of the Bible folk we will study, and God is at work in your own life. You will see how God uses his angels as agents of his grace.

Perhaps a greater appreciation and understanding of angels, these special servants of God, will grow in your heart and mind as you study these accounts of the coming of Jesus. Then, join the choir—angels and saints alike—to give God glory!

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Using the Study Guide

As you use this study guide, you will find each lesson follows a pattern.

The **Introduction** sets the stage to draw your group into the lesson.

The **Lesson Theme** begins with a Bible verse drawn from the text you will study together. This verse highlights God's grace revealed by the angel(s). Then the two statements that follow show how God acts and angels serve.

Getting Started provides questions to spark thought and discussion. Involve everyone in sharing thoughts and answers to the questions.

Into the Word leads your group into the Scriptures. The text is printed for you in this study guide. Sometimes you will be asked to look at additional texts. It will be helpful to read ahead of class time the chapters listed at the end of some sessions. Discussion questions help you step into the story.

Sing of God's Grace gives your group the opportunity to sing with the angels. Singing praises was one way the people in these accounts expressed their joy and thanks for God's action on their behalf. As you join in singing, remember your praise for God is more important than musical ability!

Something to Think About is designed to help you apply each lesson to yourself personally. Don't skip this! As the level of trust deepens in your group, you will find it rewarding to share your thoughts, feelings and experiences.

The **Closing Prayer** summarizes the main truths in each lesson and may be prayed aloud together. Additional prayers for one another and for loved ones may follow to close the session.

Be sure of this: God will bless your time with him in his Word!

Session One

The Angel in the Garden: Adam and Eve

Introduction

The Advent and Christmas seasons are aflutter with angels. They appear everywhere! Angels on cards ... in centerpieces ... on jewelry... on Christmas treetops ... in children's pageants ... even on cookie trays. We will sing of angels in carols and hymns. But best of all, during Advent and Christmas we will hear the story of angels in readings from holy Scripture. Angels! You can't miss them! But what do we know about angels? What is their role? How does God use them to bless his people and reveal his love?



Angels appear in the four Advent lessons in this study booklet. In this first lesson we will get acquainted with real angels. We will discover the role God's angels played in revealing God's love for people.

Lesson Theme

...[God] placed on the east side of the Garden of Eden cherubim...

Genesis 3:24b

- God graciously protects Adam and Eve.
- Angels protect God's children from self-destruction.

Getting Started

How are angels depicted in popular culture?

What do people commonly believe about angels?

How reliable is "common knowledge"?

Into the Word

PART ONE: What does Scripture reveal about angels—their nature, their work and their relationship to God?

Who are God's angels?

Read Hebrews 1:4-14.

Jot down what you learned from this passage about the nature of angels. _____

What is the role of God's angels?

Skim each set of Scripture references below. Summarize what you discover about the function of God's angels.

1. Angels _____

Luke 1:11, 12, 19

Psalm 103:20-21

Luke 2:13-14

Psalm 148:1-2

2. Angels _____

Luke 22:39-44

Daniel 3:25

Acts 12:5-10

Daniel 6:21-22

Psalm 34:7

Psalm 91:11

3. Angels _____

Matthew 1:20-21

Luke 1:26-28

Matthew 2:13

Luke 2:9-12

Matthew 28:2-7

Acts 1:10-11

PART TWO: Who are the first angels mentioned in Scripture? How does God use them to reveal his love for sinners? But first, read about Adam and Eve in the garden.

Adam and Eve

Skim Genesis 3:1-20.

1. How had God lovingly blessed Adam and provided generously for his needs prior to the temptation and fall into sin (2:8-9, 15-18)?