



Nurturing Faith... Every Day in Every Way

December 21, 2014

Fourth Sunday of Advent
Narrative Lectionary

Luke 1:26-38

Matthew 1:18-25



What's In A Name. *Object:* A book on the meaning of names which should be available at the library or the cards with names and their meaning.

What's in a name? Has anyone ever asked you what your name means? Do you know what your name means? When your mom and dad found out they were going to have a baby, they spent a lot of time choosing a name. They may have looked through a book that gives the meaning of names. I looked up a few names to see what they meant. (You might like to look up the meaning of the names of several of the children that are in your group. If you do not have a book, there are numerous sites on the Internet that give the meanings of names.)

John is a very popular name for boys and Joan or Joanna for girls. Their name means "God's gracious gift."

Have you ever known anyone named Daniel or Danielle? Their name means "God is my judge."

I have known quite a few boys named Michael and girls named Michaela. That is a great name that means "one who is like God." One of the angels in the Bible was named Michael.

When Mary and Joseph found out that they were going to have a baby, they didn't have to go to the library and get a book to choose his name. In fact, they didn't choose his name at all. God sent an angel to tell Mary and Joseph, "You will have a son, and you will call his name Jesus, because he will save his people from their sin." You see, the name Jesus means "the Lord saves." God loved us so much that he sent his only Son to die on the cross to save us from our sin. The Bible tells us that there is no other name that can save us.

What's in a name? If the name is Jesus, there is salvation!

Heavenly Father, we thank you that there is salvation in the name of Jesus. During this holiday season, help us to remember that it is his birthday that we celebrate. In Jesus' name we pray, Amen.

- Used by permission, Sermons4kids



Gospel Acclamation: Alleluia. Here I am, the servant of the Lord; let it be with me according to your word. Alleluia (Luke 1:38)

Word Search Puzzle

O J D H V B Q S O N G T W N V
 S H M S F V M I X J M R E K V
 L K E A D G D X M L E G X M F
 Z E Q B R R O I S M L S R E X
 C K M I U R E J N E A D U C Y
 J M A M M A Y A O P H N Z S Q
 R V R C F F Q T M S P G U Q M
 I N Y H S R T E A G E M K E R
 Q A O R X A C H I L D P D F L
 B N I I L I Z U F U F N H N M
 I G H S L D T S Q H A H I G R
 T E F T Q F I A T B Z G C B E
 A L O R O Z P R S K R J V M J
 H F B U W K I U D I V B A U C
 Q U R R L B H F V C I N B Y I

| | | | | |
|---------|-------|----------|-------|-------|
| HUSBAND | SON | IMMANUEL | MARY | NAME |
| CHRIST | CHILD | VIRGIN | BIRTH | ANGEL |
| JOSEPH | MARRY | AFRAID | DREAM | JESUS |

"WHO AM I" Game - Children can make the sound of an animal that may have been around Jesus in the stable and have the teacher or another "IT" guess what the animal NAME is. Discussion about our lesson today and "What's in a Name"!

CHRISTMAS TREE Wall Hanging - Teacher can give each child a large cut out green triangle or another idea for a Christmas tree. Children will draw a very large cross on the tree (use bright neon color for the cross) and write JESUS on the trunk. Discussion about the NAME of JESUS.

MANGER ART - Make a nativity stable outline with craft sticks and glue some pieces of straw in the stable. Have children write JESUS IS SALVATION on the "roof" craft sticks of the stable.

God With Us



“The virgin will conceive and give birth to a son, and they will call him Immanuel” (which means “God with us”).
Matthew 1:23 (NIV)