

**CCD GRADE 3: OUR LIFE WITH JESUS**

Chapter 15: The Christ Child is Born

 PREPARATION – How to Get Ready

Teacher’s Manual: pp. 177-187

Materials: For activities: Clear cups, dirt, water/sink, Christmas music

 PROCLAMATION – Main Theme

God chose Mary to play a special part in His plan to save humankind. Mary’s “yes” to God allowed Him to become man (Jesus) in order to save us from sin.

 EXPLANATION – Content of Lesson

* The *Annunciation* is when God, through the angel Gabriel, invited Mary to be the mother of His Son.
* Mary said “Yes” and conceived by the power of the Holy Spirit, yet remained a virgin.
* This was the beginning of Jesus’ human life.
* God becoming human in order to save mankind is called the *Incarnation*.
* The *Immaculate Conception* was when Mary was conceived in the womb of her mother.
* From the first moment of her life, Mary was free from Original Sin.
* We celebrate Jesus’ birth on *Christmas*.
* Jesus was born in a stable in Bethlehem.
* He wished to be poor so he could teach us to be humble and not to try and find happiness in money and the pleasures of the world.

 APPLICATION – Connecting it to Students

* *Discussion questions (about Nativity):*
  + *Where was Jesus born?*
  + *Did he have a lot of things? Were Mary and Joseph rich?*
  + *Why do you think God chose to come into the world in this way?*
* Activity: The Immaculate Conception (explanation with cups and dirt)
  + Christmas musical chairs
* Video: The Annunciation <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=VrYvuYwPAvU>
  + This short clip can provide a visual for the students to understand the conversation between Mary and the Angel Gabriel at the Annunciation.

 CELEBRATION - Conclusion

* Sing “Silent Night” or another Christmas song about Jesus’ birth and Mary.