

Angels and Their Ministry

Passages: As listed in the lesson.

Memory Verse

“For He shall give His angels charge over you, to keep you in all your ways. In their hands they shall bear you up, lest you dash your foot against a stone.” (Psalm 91:11–12)

Knowledge of God’s Will [God’s Word]	Knowledge of God [God’s Divine Nature]	Good Works [Behavior]
<ol style="list-style-type: none">1. God uses angels mightily in His ministry.2. Only God is worthy of our worship.	God created angels to be His mighty helpers and messengers.	<ol style="list-style-type: none">1. Be God’s messengers and helpers.2. Guard against evil and minister to others.

Overview

Events and Spiritual Teachings

- A. Understanding Angels
- B. Angels, God, and Man

Life Application: God Has Called Us to Be His Shining Light!

Memory Verse

Conclusion: We must shine the light of God by serving Him, praising Him, and becoming His messenger.

Spiritual Teachings

Introduction

We see depictions of angels all around us in fictional narratives or real-life experiences. But do angels really exist? If they do, what do they look like, and what do they do? Are they as powerful as God? The Bible refers to angels over 300 times, so we know that they exist. To find out more about them, let us take a closer look at the Bible.

Suggested lesson format: Prepare index cards with questions from the Spiritual Teachings section, as well as a list of verses that direct the students to the answers. Have students work in pairs or individually, depending on class size, and hand out the index cards. Provide adequate time for the students to answer the questions, after which they can report on their findings. As they share, other students can write down the answers to the questions on their own worksheets.

A. Understanding Angels

1. What are the names and titles of angels?

- “angel of the LORD” (Ps 34:7)
- “angel” (Acts 12:7–8)
- “holy ones” (Dan 4:17)
- “host of heaven” (1 Kgs 22:19)
- “heavenly host” (Lk 2:13)
- “ministering spirits” (Heb 1:14)
- “cherubim” (Gen 3:24; Ezek 11:22)
- “seraphim” (Isa 6:2)
- Michael (Jude 1:9)
- Gabriel (Lk 1:19)

2. What are angels like?

- a. Angels are created as spirits (Heb 1:14)
 - Angels are spiritual beings so they do not die (Lk 20:35–36)
 - God created them (Ps 148:2, 5)
 - Angels can manifest in human form (Gen 18:1–2; Heb 13:2)
 - Angels can converse and dine with people (Gen 19:1–3)
 - Angels can move very fast (Ezek 1:14)
 - They never need to rest (Rev 4:8)
 - Angels have their own language (1 Cor 13:1)
 - Angels do not die since they are spirits, nor do they marry (Mt 22:30)
- b. Angels are perfect and holy
 - They have a countenance like lightning and clothing as white as snow (Mt 28:3)
 - Angels are full of wisdom and perfect in beauty (Ezek 28:12)
- c. Angels are humble and obedient
 - Angels are not to be worshipped (Rev 22:8–9)

3. What do angels do?

- a. Angels minister to God in heaven

- They praise, worship, and glorify God (Rev 5:11–13)
 - They minister and carry out God’s orders (Dan 7:9–10)
- b. Angels are sent as mighty messengers
- They deliver God’s messages (Lk 2:10–11)
 - They fight against Satan (Rev 12:7–9)
- c. Angels minister to God’s chosen people
- They give warning to the chosen people (Gen 19:21–22)
 - They protect the saints (Ps 91:11–12)
 - They deliver the saints from danger (Acts 5:17–20)
 - They escort saints who have died to their heavenly home (Lk 16:22)
 - They assist on the day of judgment (Mt 13:41–42)
- 4. Where do angels live?**
- a. They are called heavenly messengers, so they dwell in heaven (Mt 22:30)
- b. All the host of heaven stand beside the Lord on His right hand and on His left (1 Kgs 22:19; Dan 7:10)
- c. They are sent forth everywhere (Ps 34:7)
- 5. Are there different ranks of angels?**
- a. Angels have a huge population
- A “thousand thousands” serve God, and “ten thousand times ten thousand” stand before Him (Dan 7:10; Rev 5:11)
 - The heavenly Jerusalem has an “innumerable company of angels” (Heb 12:22)
- b. Angels have different names, roles, and ranks
- “Or do you think that I cannot now pray to My Father, and He will provide Me with more than twelve legions of angels?” (Mt 26:53)
 - a. Six thousand soldiers form a legion; this tells us that angels have a form of organization
- c. Michael (Who is like God)
- The chief angel is the archangel Michael (Jude 1:9)
 - He had special charge of Israel as a nation (Dan 12:1)
 - He disputed with Satan about the body of Moses (Jude 1:9)
 - He fought against Satan (Rev 12:7)
- d. Gabriel (Champion of God)
- Gabriel stands in the presence of God (Lk 1:19)
 - Gabriel was sent to Daniel to explain the vision and the prophecies (Dan 9:21–23)
 - Gabriel brought God’s message to Mary that she was going to give birth to Jesus (Lk 1:26), and he announced the birth of John the Baptist (Lk 1:11–13)
- e. Cherubim
- Angelic beings with wings (Ex 25:20; Ezek 10:8)
 - They are guardians of Eden and of the tree of life (Gen 3:24)

- They are beside the throne of God (Ezek 10:1)

B. Angels, God, and Man

1. How are angels different from God?

- No creature can be in two places at one time, not even angels; only God is omnipresent (Acts 17:24)
- Angels know more than humans, but they are not omniscient like God (Mt 24:36)
- Angels excel in strength (Ps 103:20), but they are not omnipotent like God
- God has always existed—He has no beginning and no end—but each angel has a beginning because God created angels (Ps 148:5)

2. Are angels like men?

- Angels are servants of God, while the believers are the children of God, who will inherit salvation (Heb 1:14)
- Angels do not marry (Mt 22:30)
- Both angels and men are capable of sinning (2 Pet 2:4); all creation should follow God's righteousness

3. How powerful are angels?

- Angels have supernatural might (Ps 103:20)
- They can seal the mouths of lions (Dan 6:21–22)
- They can open the locks of jails (Acts 12:6–10)
- One angel once killed 185,000 men (2 Kgs 19:35)
- Angels have the might to bind Satan (Rev 20:1–2)

The apostle John wrote, “Now I, John, saw and heard these things. And when I heard and saw, I fell down to worship before the feet of the angel who showed me these things. Then he said to me, ‘See that you do not do that. For I am your fellow servant, and of your brethren the prophets, and of those who keep the words of this book. Worship God’ ” (Rev 22:8–9).

Even though angels are mighty beings created by God, the Bible teaches us that we should not worship angels. But why? This is because we should only worship God. Jesus Christ teaches us that we should worship the Lord our God and serve Him only (Mt 4:10). Nor should we pray to angels, because we can and should pray directly to God himself (Heb 4:14–16). Only God, our heavenly Father, is worthy of our prayers, our praise, and our adoration.

Check for Understanding

1. **Name four characteristics of angels.** Angels are created as spirits (Heb 1:14); Angels are perfect and holy; Angels are humble and obedient; Angels are not to be worshipped (Rev 22:8–9)
2. **What kinds of works do angels do?** They minister to God in heaven; are sent as mighty messengers; and minister to God's chosen people.
3. **Name three ways angels are different from God.** God is everywhere, but angels can only be in one place at a time; Angels know more than humans, but they are not omniscient like God; Angels excel in strength (Ps 103:20), but they are not omnipotent like God.
4. **How do angels minister to God?** They praise, worship, and glorify God and carry out God's orders.
5. **How do angels minister to the people of God?** They give warnings, protect and deliver the saints from danger, and assist on the day of judgment.

- 6. Name a biblical example that illustrates the power of angels.** They can seal the mouths of lions (Dan 6:21–22) or open the locks of jails (Acts 12:6–10). One angel once killed 185,000 men (2 Kgs 19:35).
- 7. Who in the Bible received a message from an angel?** Mary, Daniel, and Zacharias.

Life Application

God Has Called Us to Be His Shining Light!

“Let your light so shine before men, that they may see your good works and glorify your Father in heaven.”

(Matthew 5:16)

We live in a time where darkness is everywhere around us. It is in crimes that we hear or read about, in the despair that so many people feel, and in the acceptance of actions against God’s teachings. But the Bible tells us to “let [our] light so shine before men.” God wants us to be different from the world, to love others as He loved us, and to bring others into His kingdom. What can we do to be His shining light?

1. I can visit and pray for the sick.

Testimony: A non-believer once contracted an incurable disease. Doctors told him that he only had a certain amount of time to live, and that there was nothing they could do. The only thing left was to wait for his death. Yet, although the doctors gave up on him, God never gave up on him. Members came to visit this person and preach to him about how God successfully treated many illnesses. In his difficult situation, he came to believe in God and soon, angels were sent to heal him. He praised God and became a fervent member of the church, doing many good works for God.

When someone is healed by the power of God through prayer, it is evidence that Jesus is the light.

- “And Jesus went about all Galilee, teaching in their synagogues, preaching the gospel of the kingdom, and healing all kinds of sickness and all kinds of disease among the people.” (Mt 4:23)
- “Then He called His twelve disciples together and gave them power and authority over all demons, and to cure diseases. He sent them to preach the kingdom of God and to heal the sick.” (Lk 9:1–2)
- “Now, Lord, look on their threats, and grant to Your servants that with all boldness they may speak Your word, by stretching out Your hand to heal, and that signs and wonders may be done through the name of Your holy Servant Jesus.” (Acts 4:29–30)

Discussion: What action plan will you take this week to be God’s shining light to those who are sick?

2. I can be God’s messenger.

Angels are God’s messengers. The angel Gabriel appeared to Daniel to explain his visions and give him important messages concerning the end of times (Dan 8:15–27; 9:20–27). An angel told Zacharias that his wife Elizabeth would have a boy (Lk 1:11–22), and Mary and Joseph received several messages through an angel. The angel served as a messenger not only for Jesus’ birth, but also warned them to flee and told them when it was safe to return from Egypt (Lk 1:26–33; Mt 2:13, 19–20). Years later, two angels relayed the message of Jesus’ resurrection to Mary Magdalene and Mary, mother of James (Lk 24:1–10).

Testimony: Stanley’s Fall Spiritual Convocation was coming up soon. He had always wanted to invite

his friend Bradley to one of the evangelical services. But how? One day in class, Bradley sat down at his desk with a frown. After approaching Bradley, Stanley learned of the difficult time Bradley was having at home. Knowing that God had brought this opportunity to him, Stanley told Bradley how God can comfort us and that there are angels all around us to watch over us. He then invited Bradley to the evangelical service on Friday night, and Bradley gladly accepted.

Discussion: We are also God’s messengers. What kind of messages does God want you to share?

3. I can help and minister to others.

In the Bible, angels helped many workers when they had needs. For example, Elijah was awakened and strengthened by an angel, allowing him to go on a forty-day journey to Mt. Horeb.

Testimony: Sitting in the corner of the cafeteria, Janice could feel hundreds of eyes on her. She was the new kid who had shown up halfway through the school year. She was the “outsider,” someone whom they had only heard stories about. Her secondhand clothing looked like a patchwork quilt, but she always tried her best to look nice. To her surprise, Janice noticed someone walking towards her. “Hi, Janice, my name is Kari. Can I sit with you?” Taken aback, Janice could only nod silently. Kari introduced herself, and they spent the entire lunch talking. “Don’t worry about the others. They’re only scared of what they don’t know. I could tell that you’re a kind and warm person from how you treat the teachers and other students. I know that God can see that, too.”

Discussion: God has also sent you to be His helper. Who can you give a kind or encouraging word to this week?

4. I can encourage my peers to guard against evil.

Angels in the Bible fought against evil and rescued God’s chosen people (Acts 12:5–15). Archangel Michael and his angels fought against Satan, and they came out victorious (Rev 12:7–12). These angels found victory against Satan, but we should not challenge Satan voluntarily; we cannot fight against Satan with flesh and blood. Rather, we need to rely on the name of God and the power of the Holy Spirit to protect ourselves and guard against evil. In this world where evil is all around us, we should be alert and encourage one another to guard against evil. To do so, we must:

- a. *Guard our hearts.* “Keep your heart with all diligence, for out of it spring the issues of life” (Prov 4:23).
- b. *Guard against false teachings.* “For false christs and false prophets will rise and show great signs and wonders to deceive, if possible, even the elect. See, I have told you beforehand” (Mt 24:24–25).
- c. *Guard against idols.* “Little children, keep yourself from idols” (1 Jn 5:21).
- d. *Guard our minds against those who cheat us through empty deceit.* “Beware lest anyone cheat you through philosophy and empty deceit, according to the tradition of men, according to the basic principles of the world, and not according to Christ” (Col 2:8).

Nowadays, movies and music can and often have powerful influences on our mind. We need to guard our minds and be vigilant by asking ourselves: Is this from God? We must search the Bible and combat these influences with the word of God (Eph 6:17).

5. I can praise God at any time.

Angels in the Bible praised and glorified God all the time. In Isaiah 6:3, angels proclaimed the holiness of God by praising Him, “Holy, holy, holy, is the LORD of hosts; the whole earth is full of His

glory!” Likewise, we should praise God all the time.

Testimony: Ryan’s family had just driven three hours to attend an annual art exhibition and fair. They knew that the fair always drew large crowds, so they weren’t surprised when they saw the long line into the parking lot. Ryan looked at his father in the rearview mirror, and he could tell that with every passing minute, his father was getting more stressed. His father didn’t want them to miss anything by spending too much time in the parking lot. “Keep your eyes open!” Ryan’s father exclaimed as they entered the lot. Ryan spotted a vacant spot the next row over. “Found one, Dad! It’s in the row to the left!”

As Ryan’s father drove towards the spot with his blinker on, another driver came out of nowhere and took the spot, almost crashing into their car. Furious, Ryan’s father honked the horn and was about to get out of the car to yell at the other driver when Ryan said, “Dad, maybe they were looking for even longer than we were. Thank God that no one was hurt. Why don’t we just find another one?” Ryan’s father closed his eyes and regained his composure. “Yes, thank God. An angel must be looking out for us. Maybe this angel can also help us find a parking spot!”

Discussion: What are some ways you can praise God this week?

Here are some other ways you can shine as the light of the world!

- Forgive someone who has wronged you. Is there someone on your grudge list? Ask God to open your heart so that you can truly forgive others.
- Thank your parents who take good care of you—appreciate them for all that they do!
- Be a helping hand to others—bring a bag of canned goods to your local food bank; give clothing and supplies to the homeless shelter; make a meal for an elderly neighbor; or offer a helping hand when you see a person in need.
- Say a prayer for a loved one or a friend, or for those who are sick physically or spiritually. Even you can pray for a stranger in need.
- Offer your abilities for a good cause and share with others the talents that God gave you. Volunteer at a hospital, a nursing home, a soup kitchen, etc.; the possibilities are endless!

Memory Verse

“For He shall give His angels charge over you, to keep you in all your ways. In their hands they shall bear you up, lest you dash your foot against a stone.” (Psalm 91:11–12)

Meaning

1. God promises that He will be there with us whenever we are going through trials, but His love for us is so immense that He has even instructed His angels to help us up when we are about to stumble.
2. There are many times in our lives when we will face trials and tribulations, some of which may cause us to stumble. God has given His angels the duty to help us to remain on the correct path and keep us from stumbling.

Conclusion

In this lesson, we have learned about angels and their ministry. Not only did they protect and save God’s people, but they also sent important messages from God. Today, we must shine the light of God by serving Him, praising Him, and becoming His messenger. May God guide us to be a helping hand to those in need as God’s ministering servants.

Lesson 10 Homework Assignment Answer Key

1. What does the memory verse teach us about God's love?
His love for us is so immense that He has even instructed His angels to help us up when we are about to stumble.
2. "Praise Him, all His _____; praise Him, all His hosts! [...] Let them _____ the name of the LORD, for He _____ and they were _____." (Psalm 148:2, 5)
angels, praise, commanded, created
3. How are angels different from God?
 - *Angels can only be in one place at a time*
 - *Angels are not omniscient or omnipotent*
 - *Angels have a beginning, as God created them*
4. Write down the four ways angels serve, with biblical examples.
 - *Angels praise and glorify God (Rev 5:11–13; Isa 6:2–3)*
 - *Angels deliver God's messages (Lk 2:8–14; Lk 1:11–20)*
 - *Angels fight against Satan (Rev 12:7–9)*
 - *Angels help others (1 Kgs 19:2–8; Gen 19:15–22)*
5. How do we guard ourselves against evil?
Guard our hearts (Prov 4:23), guard against false teachings (Mt 24:24–25), guard against idols (1 Jn 5:21), and guard our minds against those who cheat us through empty deceit (Col 2:8).
6. Choose one aspect of the angels' work and share how you can apply this to your life.
Personal answers.