**Resource Sheet 1**

The Annunciation

 (Luke 1:26-38)

**You will need:**

* Beige felt underlay
* Brown felt road
* 3 D Figures: Mary and Angel Gabriel (could be from a Nativity set or peg figures)
* Bible

*Children are seated in a semi-circle ready to listen to the story. When the children are ready carry the materials carefully from the story shelf to the story area and place beside you and say*

*Place class Bible, open at Luke, in front of you with your hand on it.*

**This story comes from the Gospel according to Luke, which is in the New Testament section of the Bible.**

*Place Bible beside you.*

*Lay underlay and then the road. Place Mary on the underlay to the side of the road. Hold the angel in your hand as you say:*

**Angels are special messengers sent by God.**

**One day God sent the angel, whose name was Gabriel, to the town of Nazareth. The angel had a message for a young woman, named Mary, who lived in that town.**

*Place the angel Gabriel near Mary and turn the angel towards Mary as you say:*

**Gabriel spoke to Mary saying, “Greetings, O favoured one. The Lord is with you.”**

*Move Mary a little way away from the angel and say:*

**What sort of greeting was this! Mary was perplexed and wondered what it meant!**

*Place your hand behind the angel as you say:*

**The angel reassured Mary saying, “Do not be afraid, Mary. I am here to tell you that God is very pleased with you. You are going to have a son, and you will name him Jesus.”**

*Move the angel to be closer to Mary and say:*

**Your child will be great and will be called the Son of the Most High.**

*Place your hand behind Mary and say:*

**Mary was even more perplexed, and said to Gabriel, “How can this be?”**

*Place your hand over Mary, as though blessing her, and say:*

**Again the angel Gabriel reassured Mary saying, “The Holy Spirit will come upon you and the power of the Most High will overshadow you, therefore your son will be holy and he will be called the Son of God.**

**Gabriel continued with another message, “Mary, even though your cousin, Elizabeth is very old, she also is going to have a baby boy... You see *nothing* is impossible to God.”**

*Move Mary to face away from and a little way from the angel, and say:*

**Mary wondered what all this meant; how could these things possibly happen?**

*Move Mary back to the angel, and say:*

**Even though she didn’t fully understand, Mary trusted in God and said, “Here I am, the servant of God, let these things happen just as you have said.”**

*Remove the angel, and say:*

**After hearing Mary’s response, the angel, Gabriel left her.**

*Pause for a while before wondering with the students.*

I wonder…

I wonder what you find amazing, or puzzling, in this story.

I wonder how hard it was for Mary to trust God.

I wonder what the angel Gabriel’s words, “Nothing is impossible to God” mean.

I wonder why there were two messages, or two promises from God.