

# **Lesson 4 – Creation and the Angels**

**Grades 6-8**

## **Lesson Preparation:**

Read Lesson 4 in the Baltimore Catechism. You will need to have a Bible for this session. Also, you will need the pre-test, and to make sure students have paper on which to do the activity.

## **Opening Prayer:**

Scripture: “See that you do not despise one of these little ones, for I say to you that their angels in Heaven always look upon the face of my heavenly Father.” Mt. 18:10

Leader: Father in Heaven, You have given us your holy angels to guide us back to You. Help us to learn about them today, and appreciate their great gift of friendship. Amen.

Together: Come, Holy Spirit, fill the hearts of your faithful and kindle in them the fire of your love. Send forth your Spirit and they shall be created, and You shall renew the face of the earth. O God, who by the light of the Holy Spirit, did instruct the hearts of the faithful, grant that by the same Holy Spirit, we may be truly wise and ever rejoice in His consolations, through Christ our Lord. Amen.

## **Opening:**

Let your students know that today you will be learning about the creation of the angels. Angels are real creatures, but many people are very confused about them. This lesson will start with a little quiz to help us consider what we know, or what we think we know, about angels. Administer the short true/false quiz attached with this lesson. You may discuss it right away, or have the students hold onto it until the end of the session. Then they can make changes to it, based on what they learn today, before you reveal the answers.

**Watch the Lesson 4 Video on Catholic Brain**

**Comprehension Questions:** *Note: These questions are asked after the video, just to check student comprehension. They are not discussion questions, but be sure students understand the answers to these questions before moving on*

1) What are angels?

*Angels are pure spirits, with no bodies, but with an intellect and a will.*

2) How do angels help us?

*They act as messengers from God, pray for us, and serve as our guardian angels.*

3) What is a guardian angel?

*Everyone has a guardian angel whose specific task it is to help guide us to Heaven.*

4) What happened to the angels that rebelled against God?

*Those angels inhabit hell and are called devils, or demons. The angel Lucifer, now referred to as satan, led the rebellion.*

5) How do the demons try to harm us?

*They can tempt us to sin, but they can not make us sin.*

**Discussion Questions:** *Note: These questions are for student discussion. The students should consider these questions and comment on them. There are some key points included in this lesson, after each question, that you can use to help guide their discussion toward truth. It's important that the students think about and discuss these things, but that they don't leave the discussion with false impressions about what is true.*

1) Why are angels relevant to our lives?

*Angels are created by God with a purpose. They serve Him, and they can help us get to Heaven. Besides praying for us, our guardian angel also inspires us to do good. We should pray to our guardian angel and ask for help.*

2) Why is it important to be aware, but not afraid of, the devil?

*In one sense, we should be afraid of sin because it is the only thing that can separate us from God. The devil wants to destroy us, and will tempt us, so it's important to be aware. However, we need not be in fear because the devil can not make us sin, God gives us the grace to resist temptation, and God is infinitely more powerful than the devil.*

## **Go Deeper:**

Read Luke 1:28-38, The Annunciation. **Discussion Question: What do you find interesting about the Archangel Gabriel's interaction with Mary?**

*Possible responses: The angel gives honor to Mary; he calls her "full of grace;" he proposes God's plan to her and waits for her consent. Mary is humble, accepts the words of the angel, and consents to God's plan, as His handmaid.*

## **Activity:**

Pray the traditional guardian angel prayer: "Angel of God, my guardian dear, to whom God's love commits me here; ever this day be at my side; to light and guard, to rule and guide. Amen."

Now compose a prayer of your own to your guardian angel, and use that prayer to begin praying regularly to your guardian angel.

## **Closing Prayer:**

Leader: Lord, thank You for the gift of my guardian angel, and all the angels You have created, and who love us. Help us to understand them more deeply and to respond to the good inspirations of our guardian angels. Amen.

Together: Glory be to the Father, and to the Son, and to the Holy Spirit, as it was in the beginning, is now, and ever shall be, world without end. Amen.