

# A humble King

## Leader's guide

A Christmas song by Michelle Dodds, made beautiful by its simplicity.

## Bible verse

'But the angel said to them, "Do not be afraid. I bring you good news that will cause great joy for all the people".'

**Luke 2:10**

**Don't be afraid**

## Warm-up

Why not use this song as part of a carol service or Nativity service to tell the story of the angel's visit to both Mary and Joseph? The repeated melodic phrases will be easy to learn, but it is important that the story does not become uninteresting because of it. Perhaps find a way to depict Mary, Joseph and the angel amongst your group to provide a visual aid to the song.

## Prayer

Dear Lord,  
Thank you that you are with us always. You protect us and love us and walk beside us each day. Because of your mighty power, we have no need to be afraid. Please help us when we are scared to put our trust in you. When we are facing hard things, or when we need to be brave, help us to know that you are there, guiding us and holding our hands. Amen..

## Activity

### Do you hear what I hear?

Equipment: empty boxes and Christmas items.

Have three empty boxes with three different Christmas items in. For example, bells, baubles and tinsel. Volunteers can come and give the box a shake to see if they can guess what is inside the box.

**Throughout the Christmas story different people feel surprised by what they are hearing, but they trust that God has a plan and they shouldn't be afraid.**

## Thought

Have you ever been outside at night with no streetlights or torch? It probably felt very dark and scary! On the night of Jesus' birth, the shepherds were out in a very dark and cold field when the angels came to tell them the good news. The first thing the angel said was, 'Do not be afraid!'

When Mary and Joseph were told they were going to have a baby, they were probably quite scared. Then there was the added pressure that this baby was not a normal baby – he was the son of God! But God was with them, so they did not need to be afraid. He sent his son to earth in the humblest of ways, in the form of a baby. He lived alongside us then, and still does now. So what do we have to fear? Nothing! Because God is always with us.

## Personal challenge

Think about a time recently where you've felt really scared. How did you overcome your fear?

Why not say a prayer, thanking God for all the times he has kept you safe when you have been afraid. Next time you feel scared, remind yourself of these words: 'God is with me. I am not scared!'

## Group challenge

Christmas is full of joy and happiness. But for some people in the world, it is not so fun.

Talk with each other about the reasons why some people might be scared or unhappy this Christmas. Then say a prayer for them, asking God to be with them. That way, they don't have to be scared either.