



Life of Christ

The wise men come to Jesus Matthew 2:1-12

Younger Verse

A Savior has been born to you; He is Christ the Lord. Luke 2:11

Older Verse

Today in the town of David a Savior has been born to you; He is Christ the Lord. Luke 2:11

Welcome Time

Greet each child and make them feel special by asking them about their Christmas. Spray some sweet smelling perfume in the room. Ask the children to imagine the smells of oils and perfumes. Explain that these things were given as gifts to someone VERY special.

Bible Story

*Please note: This portion of the lesson is given to help in teaching the lesson. Please read through the story and read it in the Bible. Do **NOT** read from this piece of paper. Instead, make a note sheet and place it next to the story in the Bible.*

A long time ago some men called wise men, or Magi, were looking at the stars. The stars twinkled in the sky.

If you could have heard them, they might have said something like this: "Look! see that star? It is bigger and brighter than all the other stars. It looks like a spotlight in the sky!"

"Why is it brighter than all the others?" asked one of the men.

"I know," said another man. "It means that a king has been born."

"Let's go find this king," said one of them.

"We need to take some gifts with us," suggested one of the wise men.

"What will we take?" the men asked each other.

"I'll take a gift of gold," said the first man.

"I know," said one of them. "I'll take some sweet-smelling incense called frankincense."

"And I'll take some sweet-smelling oil called myrrh," said the third man.

Soon the men had their gifts ready to take to Jesus. They climbed upon their camels and started on the long trip to find Jesus.

The wise men followed the light of the star until they got to the city of Jerusalem. They thought for sure that a king would be born in the capital city. They asked the ruler, "Where is Jesus, the King of the Jews? We saw the bright star and have come to find Jesus, the baby king." When the king heard that the king of the Jews

Lesson Goals

To let the children see and understand that Jesus loves them, not for what they do, but for who they are
To help the children understand that they can find Jesus like the wise men did



was born he became jealous. He thought Jesus may want to take over the kingdom. He pretended he was interested and wanted to know where Jesus was. He asked the men to come back and tell him where Jesus was so he could go also.

Soon the wise men found Jesus, Mary and Joseph. They knelt down and said, “Thank you, God, for Jesus, the King.”

Then the wise men gave Jesus their gifts of gold, incense, and myrrh perfume. The wise men loved Jesus.

After they worshipped Jesus, they were warned in a dream to return a different way and not to tell the king--because he wanted to kill Jesus. Everyone escaped safely. God took care of his family!

God takes care of us too. He sent Jesus to be our bridge to Heaven. You see, we couldn't get to Heaven by ourselves. We needed a friend to help us get there. Jesus is that friend. How do you do it? You must ask Jesus to come into your life and be your best friend just like the wise men came to Jesus. He will come in and stay forever with you. He will NEVER leave you!

Talk about the story and the birth of Jesus. Help them understand this incredible miracle! Use activities that will help them—maybe act out the story using some Burger King crowns and wrapped gifts!

Learning Activities

Ask the kids what it means to worship something. Ask them how they thought the wise men worshiped baby Jesus. Practice saying the verse together. Ask them how THEY can worship Jesus.

Memory Verse Activities

Ask the children to pray—help them say a sentence prayer if needed. It is so touching to hear children pray honest prayers straight from their heart.

Prayer Time

A fun snack would be to make delicious “gifts.” Spread butter or cream cheese on a slice of bread. Sprinkle with sugar sparkles or little colored sprinkles. (You can make colored sugar by putting a drop of food coloring into sugar and stirring it up.) Enjoy!

Snack Time/CleanUp

Planning for next year
We will have two kinds of
New Testament Lessons

Life of Christ
(Going through Luke)
And
Acts through Revelation

Preschool Lesson
For
The Wise Men

Teachers: Today's lesson is written from the view of the camel.

Hi! I'm a camel. I carry people on long journeys through the desert. I can go a long way with water.

One day, my owners saddled me up for a long journey. They packed many things, including some beautiful gifts. I wondered what they were for.

Clop, clop, clop. I carried my owner. There were other camels too. We were all traveling together on a long journey.

What was curious to me was the way we traveled. My owner pointed to a star in the sky and we followed it. So, we traveled often at night so that we could see the star very clearly.

I heard my owner say that we were traveling to meet a baby king that had been born. The star lit up the sky to announce His birth.

Finally, after a long time, we came to the town of Bethlehem. It was a little town. Then we found the place where the baby was. His name was Jesus. He was God's Son. My owner and the other men opened the saddle bags and gave baby Jesus wonderful gifts.

They bowed down and presented Jesus with gold, sweet smelling incense and myrrh perfume. The baby's mother and father were Mary and Joseph. They were so proud of their new baby boy.

I knew that He was a very special little boy. He was God's only Son. We worshipped Him. I am so glad that God gave us His Son.

Let's take time to thank God for baby Jesus!

Sing this song to the tune of "We wish you a Merry Christmas."

The wise men came to Jesus,
The wise men came to Jesus,
The wise men came to Jesus,
And gave Him three gifts.

Let's thank God for sending Jesus,
Let's thank God for sending Jesus,
Let's thank God for sending Jesus,
At this special time.



Hands-On Activities For The Wise Men

Get glow in the dark stars and tape them to your classroom ceiling or walls. Talk about how the bright star led the Wise Men to the baby Jesus.

Before class, make a trail using masking tape (or make a map to follow). Have fun following the trail to a special surprise. Now explain how the wise men followed the special star to find Jesus.

Make sweet smelling “incense.” Bring Epsom salts and little sample perfume bottles. Mix a little perfume into the salts. Place in zipper bags for the kids.

Decorate crowns with glitter glue and act out the story of the wise men.

Make treasure boxes like the wise men brought to Jesus. Find little cardboard boxes and decorate with sequins and glitter.

Fold and cut a variety of shaped stars. See attached pages.