



Date: _____
Series: God Gives the Best Gifts
Winter Year 2, Lesson 32

The Wise Men Share Their Gifts

Take Home Point: *GOD GIVES THE BEST GIFTS
...I give God my best!

*Repeat this phrase throughout the lesson. The leader will say the first part of the phrase (*CAPS*). The children respond with the second part of the phrase (*italics*).

Bible Event: Matthew 2:1-11

We will help children know:

- The Bible Event of the wise men visiting and worshiping Jesus.
- The wise men gave Jesus their best gifts, and we can give Jesus our best gifts.
- Ways in which we can give Jesus our best.

We will help the children feel:




- Awe at the Baby Jesus.
- Worship for the King of Kings.
- Desire to worship Jesus by giving him their best.

We will help the children do:

- Interact with puppet presentation to introduce the Bible Event.
- Participate in the Bible event.
- Craft: Heart and Hand picture.
- Snack: Gold Nuggets.
- Game: Gift Wrap Relay.
- Teach Albie the Take Home Point: GOD GIVES THE BEST GIFTS...I give God my best!
- Sing and Pray.

Kingdom Quest Year 2 - Lesson 32- 1

THIS LESSON'S ROADMAP

DESTINATION	PAGE #	DISCOVERIES ON YOUR JOURNEY	SUPPLIES NEEDED
Large Group Opening 	3 5	Puppet Presentation Bible Event	<i>Puppet Presentation:</i> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Bubba puppet holding a small package with fancy wrapping Bible Advent wreath (with extra candle in middle) lighter and optional candle snuffer <i>Bible Event:</i> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Nativity Set (on altar or table) Mystery Box containing: Incense (stuck in a piece of clay to hold upright) and lighter “gold” coins fragrant spice or talcum powder (myrrh) in a fancy bottle star (ornament or paper) Bible (from the nativity set) wise men and camels
Small Group Application 	8 9 10 11	Activity 1: Craft-Heart and Hand Picture Activity 2: Snack-Gold Nuggets Activity 3: Game-Gift Wrap Relay Prayer Time	<i>Activity 1: Craft</i> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Copies of Appendix A, one per child crayons glue sticks sequins or tissue paper squares <i>Activity 2: Snack</i> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> napkins, cups, water or juice Corn Pops cereal or your choice of fruits, vegetables or nuts <i>Activity 3: Game</i> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> 4 x 4 inch squares of wrapping paper tape timer two poster boards (or 2 large sheets of newspaper)
Large Group Wrap-up 	12 12	Singing (Optional) Lesson Review with Puppet Skit	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> your choice of music Albie puppet Example of craft Example of snack

Pre-Session Singing (10 minutes)

Purpose: *When all children are in one group singing, it is easy for children arriving later to join the group and immediately get involved.*

Large Group Opening (15 minutes)



Purpose: *The puppet demonstrates today's lesson. The children are introduced to the take home point and experience the Bible event.*

Puppet Presentation

Supplies: *Bubba puppet holding a small box wrapped in fancy paper; Presenter holds a Bible*

Presenter: Boys and girls, let's call Bubba. (Children call "Bubba".)

Bubba: Hi everyone!

Presenter: Hi Bubba. What do you have?

Bubba: It is a gift for my mom. It is her birthday today.

Presenter: What is it?

Bubba: It is good smelling perfume.

Presenter: Wow, Bubba, you must love you mother very much to give her such a wonderful gift!

Bubba: That is so true. I love my mom more than there are stars in the sky. I love her so much that I saved my dimes for a thousand years to get her this gift. I wanted to give her the best gift in the world!

Presenter: Bubba, saving for a long time for the gift and telling your mom how much you love her will make your gift extra, extra special.

Bubba: I can hardly wait to give it to her.

Presenter: Bubba, this reminds me of our Bible event today.

Bubba: Did someone give a birthday gift to their mother?

Presenter: Before I tell you, let's light the Advent wreath candle. (Light candle and keep it away from anything flammable.)

Bubba: OK. What is it called today?

Presenter: It is called the Christ candle. Bubba, what did we just celebrate?

Bubba: Oh, that's easy, Christmas!

Presenter: That's right. Christmas is Jesus' birthday. Did you know that it is still Christmastime?

Bubba: Will I get more gifts?

Presenter: You won't, but Jesus did.

Bubba: Who gave him gifts?

Presenter: After Jesus was born, some wise men from a country far away followed a star that led them to the town where Jesus was born, Bethlehem.

Bubba: Why?

Presenter: They wanted to visit Jesus and give him the best gifts they could give him. They wanted to show Jesus that they loved him.

Bubba: That's like me. I want to show my mom that I love her, so I am giving her a special gift.

Presenter: That's right. Today we will learn that God gave us the best gift. Do you know what it is?

Bubba: A new basketball? A fire truck? A set of building blocks?

Presenter: No, Bubba. God gave us the best gift, Jesus.

Bubba: Oh, I knew that.

Presenter: Today we will learn that we need to give God our best.

Bubba: How do we do that?

Presenter: I will tell you in the Bible event. Would you like to learn more about this?

Bubba: Yes I would.

Presenter: First, let's practice the take home point. I'll say the first part and you say the second part.

Bubba: OK

Presenter: *God gives the best gifts...now you say, "I give God my best!"

Bubba: I give God my best!

Presenter: Do you think you can teach the boys and girls?

Bubba: Sure.

Presenter: OK everybody, *God gives the best gifts...

Bubba: (and everyone): I give God my best!

Presenter: One more time. *God gives the best gifts...

Bubba: (and everyone): I give God my best!

Presenter: Wonderful. Say “goodbye” Bubba. (Extinguish candle.)

Bubba: Bye everyone!

Bible Event: Mystery Box

Supplies: Nativity Set on altar or table; Mystery Box containing: Incense (stuck in a piece of clay to hold upright) and lighter; “gold” coins; fragrant spice or talcum powder (myrrh) in a fancy bottle; star (ornament or paper); Bible, (from the nativity set,) wise men and camels

Bring out the mystery box. Make a big deal of taking the lid off the gift box and peeking inside to see what surprises it holds. Bring out the Bible and say:

Here’s my Bible. I remember that the Bible is God’s word. It is one of the best gifts we can have because it tells us about the best gift of all, Jesus! Last week we learned from the Bible that (point to the nativity scene on the altar) an angel appeared to some shepherds in a field and told them the Good News that Jesus was born. Then many angels appeared and praised God. When the angles left, the shepherds hurried to Bethlehem to see the Baby Jesus. After they saw Jesus, they were so excited they left the stable praising Jesus and hurried to tell other people about Jesus. Just like the shepherds and the angels praised Jesus, we can praise Jesus. We praise Jesus because he came to be our Savior and to forgive our sins, and he fills us with his love.

This week we are going to learn about some other visitors who came to see Jesus when he was a toddler. It tells about it right here in the Bible.

Let's peek inside the gift box to see what other surprises it holds for us.

Peek inside the gift box and take out the star. Hold up and say:

After Jesus was born, a very special star appeared in the sky. It was brighter than all the other stars and it seemed to move across the sky. Put it near the stable.

Take the wise men and camels out of the gift box. Add them to the nativity and say:

Some wise men, men who knew and understood many things, saw the star. They knew that the star would show them the way to the Savior, Jesus. They wanted to find Jesus and worship him, so they loaded up their camels with gifts and traveled a long distance from their country to Jesus' country. They followed the star until it stopped over the home where Baby Jesus now lived. When the wise men saw Jesus, they gave him some very special gifts.

Take the gold coins from the gift box. Lay them near the nativity and say:

One of the gifts the wise men gave Jesus was gold. Gold is a precious metal and it is worth a lot of money. It is a gift for a king. Jesus is the King of God's kingdom and he is our king.

Take the incense from the gift box, light it. Place it near the nativity and say:

Another gift the wise men brought was frankincense. Priests, men who served in the church, like pastors, would burn incense to God when they wanted God to forgive the peoples' sins. Jesus is our priest because he forgives our sins.

Take the "myrrh" (fragrant spice or talcum powder in fancy bottle) from the gift box. Lay it near the nativity and say:

The third gift the wise men gave to Baby Jesus was something called myrrh. Myrrh is a spice that costs a lot of money. It smells sweet. In Bible times people would put myrrh on the body of someone who died. Jesus was born on earth so that he could grow up, die on the cross and be punished for our sins. When our sins, the wrong things we do, are forgiven, that means they are all gone. We are forgiven if we love Jesus and believe he died for our sins.

The wise men gave God their best. We can give God our best because he gave us his best, Jesus. Let's practice giving God our best right now. Our gift box is now empty so let's think of some pretend gifts we could give God. I will name a gift and you will show

me thumbs up if we are giving our best for God and thumbs down if it is not giving our best to God.

1. Our love. Are we giving our best for God? (Thumbs up.)
2. Whining for a new toy. Are we giving our best for God? (Thumbs down.)
3. Helping our moms. Are we giving our best for God? (Thumbs up.)
4. Reading our Bibles at night. Are we giving our best for God? (Thumbs up.)
5. Pushing someone out of our way. Are we giving our best for God? (Thumbs down.)
6. Saying thank you to God for what he gives us. Are we giving our best for God? (Thumbs up.)
7. Calling someone a bad name when we are mad. Are we giving our best for God? (Thumbs down.)
8. Giving God an offering at Kingdom Quest. Are we giving our best for God? (Thumbs up.)
9. Saying “no” to your dad when he tells you to clean your room. Are we giving our best for God? (Thumbs down.)
10. Being kind to a friend. Are we giving our best for God? (Thumbs up.)

Thank you for helping me fill the box with ways to give God my best. We want to give God all our best gifts because he gave us his best, Jesus.

Boys and girls, let's practice the take home point together. I will say the first part and you repeat the last part. ***GOD GIVES THE BEST GIFTS...I give God my best!**

Let's fold our hands and pray. Repeat after me.

Dear God,
We love you.
Thank you for the gift of Jesus.
I want to give him my best.
Thank you, thank you, thank you.
In Jesus' name.
Amen.

Song:

Let's sing our song of the week. (To the tune of *Farmer in the Dell*)

Capitalized letters indicate emphasis on that syllable when the rhyme is sung.

I give GOD my BEST.
I give GOD my BEST.
HE GAVE us JE-e-SUS.
I give GOD my BEST.

Small Group Application (30 minutes)



Purpose: Children will break into small groups. Smaller groups enable children to develop closer relationships with adults and peers in the church. In your small groups you will reinforce the take home point with a fun hands-on activity and discuss the Bible event. Review questions help kids apply the take home point to their daily lives.

Activity 1: Craft “Heart and Hand”

Supplies: Copies of Appendix A, one per child; crayons; glue sticks; sequins or tissue paper squares

Boys and girls, today we are going to make a picture to remind us to give God our best. We can give God our best by giving him our hearts and our hands. We give him our hearts when we love, worship and praise him. We give him our hands when we do special things for God, like giving an offering, helping our families or using our hands to hug someone.

Give each child their copy of the Appendix.

I want you to trace one hand in the heart then color it. When you are finished coloring, use your glue sticks to attach the sequins (or tissue squares). Make sure you can still see your hand in the picture.

Do you remember why we want to give God our best? (Because he gave us his best, Jesus.)

Review the Bible Event.

Who were Jesus’ special visitors in today’s Bible event? (*Wise men.*)

Let’s practice the take home point. ***GOD GIVES THE BEST GIFTS.../ give God my best!**

Let’s fold our hands and pray. Repeat after me.

Dear God,
We love you.
Thank you for the gift of Jesus.
I want to give him my best.
Thank you, thank you, thank you.
In Jesus’ name.
Amen.

Song:

Let’s sing our song of the week. (To the tune of *Farmer in the Dell*)
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Activity 2: Snack “Gold Nuggets”

Supplies: napkins, cups, water or juice; Corn Pops cereal or your choice of fruits, vegetables or nuts

*****CAUTION:** *Be aware of food allergies children may have, before you give them anything to eat.*

Before we eat our snack, let’s fold our hands and pray. Repeat after me.

Dear God,
We love you.
Thank you for the gift of Jesus.
I want to give him my best.
Thank you, thank you, thank you.
In Jesus’ name.
Amen.

Boys and girls, today we are going to eat a snack that reminds us of the gold the wise men brought Jesus. (If using fruits, vegetables or nuts, talk about how God designed these foods specially for us to keep us healthy.) **Go ahead and eat your snack. God has given us the gifts of Jesus, love, forgiveness and many more. We can give God the gifts of love, prayer, singing, obeying parents and many more things.**

Review the Bible event.

What did the wise men do? *(They gave Jesus their best frankincense, gold, and myrrh.)*

Let’s practice the take home point. *GOD GIVES THE BEST GIFTS.../ give God my best!

Song:

Let’s sing our song of the week. (To the tune of *Farmer in the Dell*)

Capitalized letters indicate emphasis on that syllable when the rhyme is sung.

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Activity 3: Game “Gift Wrap Relay”

Supplies: 4 x 4 inch squares of wrapping paper; tape; timer; two poster boards (or large piece of newspaper) taped to floor

Boys and girls, today we are going to play a game called, Gift Wrap Relay. We will have two teams competing against each other to see which team can get the most squares of wrapping paper on their paper.

To play:

- Line up in two lines. Each line must have its own adult to help the team.
- Set the timer for five minutes.
- The adult puts a piece of tape on a square of wrapping paper.
- The child at the front of the line grabs the wrapping paper, runs to the poster board, sticks the wrapping paper on it and runs to the end of the line.
- The second child in the line repeats the process.
- Continue playing until the timer beeps.
- The shepherds count the number of papers on their team’s poster board. The team with the most pieces of paper wins.

To discuss:

How would you feel if someone gave you a big gift-wrapped box that had beautiful wrapping paper and a big sparkly bow on it? Let children answer. How would you feel if you opened the present and there was moldy broccoli inside the box? That would be pretty yucky, wouldn’t it? Now, what if someone gave you a small brown paper bag? It looks boring on the outside, but inside you find \$100. That would be awesome, wouldn’t it? The wrapping paper isn’t what makes the gift special. It is what is inside.

In the same way, it is what is inside our hearts that makes our gifts to God special. If we give him an offering only because our moms made us give it to God, then that offering isn’t very special. But if we give God an offering because our hearts are filled with love for God, then God thinks that gift is awesome. So what is the best gift we can give God? Our love! Because when God gave us Jesus, he gave us his love.

Review the Bible event.

What are some of the best gifts we can give to God? *(Answers will vary but may include prayers, love, offerings, being kind to others, etc.)*

Let’s practice the take home point. *GOD GIVES THE BEST GIFTS.../ give God my best!

Let’s fold our hands and pray. Repeat after me.

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Prayer Time

Why do we want to give God our best gifts? (*Because he gave us his best gift, Jesus, to be our Savior and fill our hearts with love for God.*)

Ask children for prayer requests and pray as a group for child's request.

Let's practice the take home point. *GOD GIVES THE BEST GIFTS.../
give God my best!

Let's fold our hands and pray. Repeat after me.

Dear God,
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Large Group Wrap-Up (10 minutes)



Purpose: *The crazy bird puppet, Albie, struggles with learning the take home point. We try to teach him the take home point, but each time he confuses words or concepts. After three attempts, he finally gets it right.*

Singing: (Optional, two or three songs, as time allows)

Supplies: Albie the puppet, sample of today's craft and snack.

Lesson Review with Puppet Skit

Presenter shows Albie an example of each of the Activities done in small group. Then the kids attempt to teach Albie the take home point.

Presenter:

We want to welcome all our guests today and thank them for coming.

(If you give guests a gift for coming, do it now.)

Presenter:

Albie, look at the craft the children made today. It is a Heart and Hand picture. The children are going to teach you our take home point. Listen carefully.



Presenter: (says to kids):

***GOD GIVES THE BEST GIFTS...**

Kids say:

...I give God my best!

Presenter: (says to Albie):

***GOD GIVES THE BEST GIFTS...**

Albie says:

I give noogies to my friends!

Presenter:

Albie, look at the snack we ate. It looks like gold nuggets. Now listen carefully to the take home point.

Presenter: (says to kids):

***GOD GIVES THE BEST GIFTS...**

Kids say:

...I give God my best!

Presenter: (says to Albie):

***GOD GIVES THE BEST GIFTS...**

Albie says:

I like gold...GIVE ME SOME!!

Presenter:

Albie, today we played a game called Gift Wrap Relay. Now, please listen closely to the take home point.

Presenter: (says to kids):

***GOD GIVES THE BEST GIFTS...**

Kids say:

...I give God my best!

Presenter: (says to Albie):

***GOD GIVES THE BEST GIFTS...**

Albie says:

Once I gift wrapped myself up and mailed myself to grandmas' house!

Presenter says:

Albie, listen one last time.

***GOD GIVES THE BEST GIFTS...**

Kids response:

...I give God my best!

Presenter: (says to Albie):

***GOD GIVES THE BEST GIFTS...**

Albie's response:

(Warms up his singing voice with "Mee, mee, mee, mee..." and sings in a silly dramatic opera-like voice)

***GOD GIVES THE BEST GIFTS...I give God my best!**

Presenter says to Albie:

Good job, Albie!

Albie can leave stage or join in the prayer and song.

Let's fold our hands and pray. Repeat after me.

Dear God,

We love you.

Thank you for the gift of Jesus.

I want to give him my best.

Thank you, thank you, thank you.

In Jesus' name.

Amen.

Song:

Let's sing our song of the week. (To the tune of *Farmer in the Dell*)

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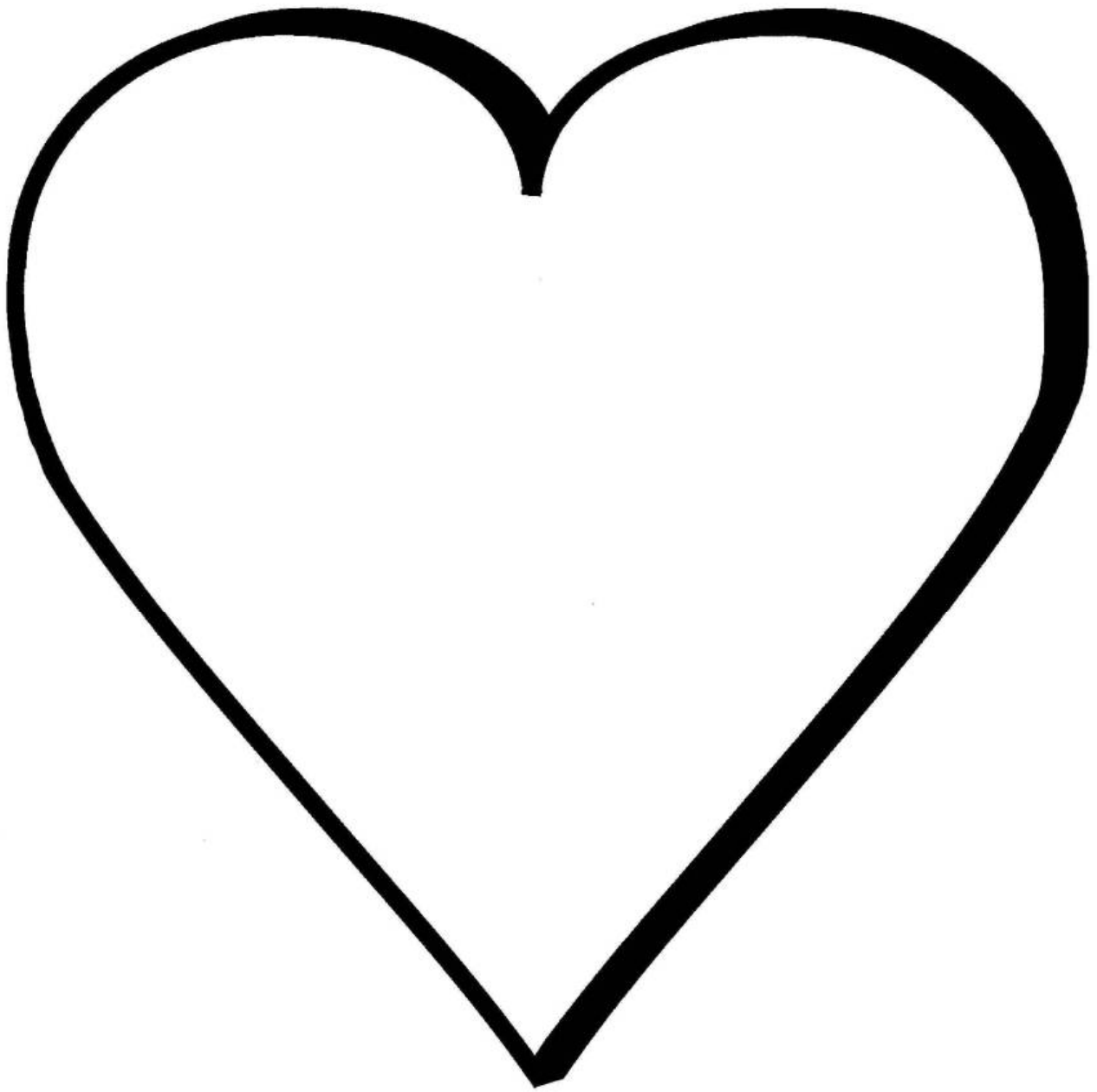
I give GOD my BEST.

HE GAVE us JE-e-SUS.

I give GOD my BEST.

Goodbye boys and girls. Remember that God loves you and he wants you to give your best to him.

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I give God my best!