



Date: _____
Series: Jesus Comes
Winter Year 2, Lesson 32

Wise Men

Take Home Point: *Worship Jesus.

*Repeat this phrase throughout the lesson. Leaders say the phrase and the children repeat it.

Bible Event: Matthew 2:1-11

We will help children know:

- Wise men followed a star to find and worship Baby Jesus.
- We can worship Jesus, too.




We will help children feel:

- Happy that Jesus was born.
- Thankful that God sent his Son to be our King.

We will help children do:

- Participate in acting out the Bible Event.
- Eat a snack that looks and sparkles like a star.
- Make a craft of painted stars.
- Play a learning game called *Is It In the Sky?* and a movement game called *Follow What I Do*.
- Take home a copy of *God Talk at Home* to reinforce learning today's Take Home Point: ***Worship Jesus.**

THIS LESSON'S ROADMAP

DESTINATION	PAGE #	DISCOVERIES ON YOUR JOURNEY	SUPPLIES NEEDED
Warm-Up (5-10 minutes)	3	Transition Time	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> toys of your choice
Large Group Opening (5-10 minutes) 	3	Sing (Optional)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> songs of your choice
	3	Puppet Presentation	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Judy puppet and pink pony
	4	Bible Reading	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> children's picture Bible
Small Group Application (10 minutes—each activity) 	5	Activity 1: Acting Out Bible Event	<i>Activity 1: Bible Event</i> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> children's picture Bible
	7	Activity 2: Snack	<i>Activity 2: Snack</i> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> napkins cups of water bread or tortillas cinnamon/sugar soft butter and knife Star-shaped cookie cutters
	8	Activity 3: Craft	<i>Activity 3: Craft</i> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> copies of Appendix A on cardstock watercolor paints cotton swabs paint shirts Optional: glue, glitter, tray
	9	Activity 4: Learning Game Movement Game	<i>Activity 4: Games</i>
	10		<i>Learning Game</i> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> flashlight <i>Movement Game</i> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> rope hula hoop three bean bags one beach ball
Large Group Wrap-Up (5-10 minutes) 	12	Review Lesson and Take Home Point	
	12	Pray	
	13	Sing (Optional)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> songs of your choice

Warm-Up (Prior to class and first 10 minutes of the session.)

Young children this age need a time to get acquainted with the new surroundings as they enter the classroom. Provide a variety of calm activities and toys such as blocks, play centers and simple puzzles. These activities create an environment that helps young children let go of Mom and Dad. If necessary, Mom and Dad may play with them for a few minutes and then leave.

Large Group Opening (5-10 minutes)



Purpose: You may use singing as a large group activity and to gather attention. The opening puppet presentation is a quick overview introducing the Bible Event and Take Home Point. Early childhood humor is also used. Bubba often says something silly about elephants. Judy says something silly about pink ponies. Let the children enjoy the “joke” but use it to call attention to the Bible Event.

Singing: Use music of your choice.

Puppet Presentation

Supplies:

- children's picture Bible
- Pink pony

Judy Learns to Worship Jesus

Presenter: Boys and girls, let's call out Judy.

Kids call for Judy. **Judy...Judy...Judy.**

Judy comes out with pink pony.

Judy: Hi, everyone. I'm glad I'm here. I like it here.

Presenter: I'm glad you like it here. What do you like?

Judy: I like singing songs. I like making a craft. I like my pink pony to come with me, too.

Presenter: Those are wonderful things. Do you know the most important thing you do when you come here?

Judy: Is it to bring my pink pony?

Presenter: No. The most important thing is to worship Jesus.

Judy: How do I do that?

Presenter: You worship Jesus when you tell him you love him. When you give him your gifts, like your songs, prayers and even the gift of your offering money.

Judy: I can do that.

Presenter: Wonderful. Today we are going to learn how some wise men found Jesus after he was born so they could worship him. Will you please listen quietly while I tell you about the wise men?

Judy: I can listen and my pink pony will sit quietly.

Presenter: Wonderful. See what I am holding? This is the Bible. It is God's word. Everything in the Bible is true. Now I am going to read about our lesson from the Bible. Let's put on our listening ears.

Read the Bible Event from a children's picture Bible.

Presenter: Let's practice the Take Home Point. I'll say it first and you repeat after me. *Worship Jesus. Worship Jesus.

Presenter: Judy, will you help us sing our song of the week?

Sure, I love to sing.

Song: to the tune of *Row, Row, Row Your Boat*
Capitalized letters indicate emphasis on that syllable when the rhyme is sung.

WORSHIP JE-e-SUS.
HE'S the SON of GOD.
PRAISE him, PRAISE him, PRAISE him.
HE'S the SON of GOD.

Let's fold our hands and say a prayer. Repeat after me.

Dear God, Dear God,
We love you. We love you.
Thank you for King Jesus. Thank you for King Jesus.
We worship Jesus. We worship Jesus.
Thank you, thank you, thank you. Thank you, thank you, thank you.
In Jesus' name. In Jesus' name.
Amen. Amen.

Small Group Application (30-40 minutes)



Purpose: Young children learn best by repetition. Review the Bible Event and practice the Take Home Point as you rotate through the activities.

The shepherd to child ratio for three-year-olds should be one to six or fewer. Divide into groups of six with one shepherd or have a slightly larger group with two shepherds.

Groups rotate from activity to activity. Another option, especially for larger churches, is to provide a leader at each activity table with a shepherd leading a group of up to twelve. The ratio will be maintained at one to six.

Activity 1: Acting Out the Bible Event

Supplies:

- Children's picture Bible

Wise Men Give Gifts

Matthew 2:1-11

Introduction

Hold up a children's picture Bible.

This is the Bible. It is God's word. Let's act out what it says in the Bible. When you see me do the actions, you do them, too.

Wise men are looking for a king.

- **After Jesus was born, wise men from countries far, far away were looking for a king. Let's pretend to put a crown on our head.**
- **The wise men had read in a book that a great king would be born. Put crown on head.**
- **Even the stars would tell them that some day a great king would be born. Put crown on head.**
- **One of the greatest things they could ever do would be to find this great king. Put crown on head.**

A star will show them the way.

- **When the wise men were studying the stars in the sky, they found a new star shining brightly. Let's point to the sky.**
- **God put this special star in the sky to lead the wise men to the newborn king Baby Jesus. Put crown on head.**
- **The wise men decided to gather expensive presents for the king. They packed up their bags. (Let's pack our bags.)**
- **They got on their camels. Let's get on our camels.**
- **They began to travel, following the star. Let's ride our camels.**

Wise men ask about King Jesus.

- The wise men traveled and traveled and traveled. Finally, they got close to where the star was leading them. They wanted to know if anyone had seen the great king who had just been born. They asked the king of that land, King Herod, "Have you seen a new-born king?" Put crown on head.
- But King Herod was a bad king. He did not want King Jesus in his land. He told the wise men to tell him where the new king lived. He wanted to hurt Jesus. The wise men left and kept following the star looking for King Jesus. Let's point to the star.

Wise men give gifts to Jesus.

- The wise men followed the star until it stopped. It stopped right over the place where Jesus was staying. The new king had been born. They were very excited. They bowed down (bow down) and opened their treasures and worshiped him. They handed him his gifts. They had three gifts for the new king. Let's count to three. One...two...three.
- Let's pretend to hand Jesus the gift of gold and the gifts of frankincense and myrrh. The frankincense and myrrh were expensive spices that smelled very good.

Wise men are warned.

- The wise men visited with Jesus and his family and then were ready to leave. They were glad to find and worship Jesus. An angel warned them in a dream not to go back and talk to the bad King Herod because he wanted to hurt Jesus. They took a different road back to their country. Let's pack up all of our stuff, put it on our camels and pretend to take the trip back home.

Worship Jesus.

- When we want to worship King Jesus, do we have to pack up our treasures and put them on a camel and travel a long way to another country? No. (Shake head "no.")
- The wise men did, but we don't have to. We can worship King Jesus right here where we are. Let's do that now. Repeat after me, "Worship Jesus."
- We will worship Jesus when we sing our song and say our prayer.

Pray, Sing and Review the Take Home Point

Prayer:

Let's fold our hands and say a prayer. Repeat after me.

Dear God, Dear God,

We love you. We love you.

Thank you for King Jesus. Thank you for King Jesus.

We worship Jesus. We worship Jesus.

Thank you, thank you, thank you. Thank you, thank you, thank you.

In Jesus' name. In Jesus' name.

Amen. Amen.

Let's sing our song of the week.

Song: to the tune of *Row, Row, Row Your Boat*

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

WORSHIP JE-e-SUS.

HE'S the SON of GOD.

PRAISE him, PRAISE him, PRAISE him.

HE'S the SON of GOD.

Take Home Point:

Let's practice the Take Home Point. I'll say it first and you repeat after me: *Worship Jesus. Worship Jesus.

Activity 2: Snack

Supplies:

- *Napkins*
- *Cups and water*
- *Star-shaped cookie cutters*
- *Bread or tortillas*
- *Soft butter; knife for spreading*
- *Cinnamon/sugar mixture in shaker top or bowl with a spoon (1/2 cup sugar, 1 teaspoon cinnamon)*

If time allows, put a thin layer of butter on bread before you start.

<p>BE AWARE OF ANY FOOD ALLERGIES CHILDREN MAY HAVE BEFORE YOU GIVE THEM ANY FOOD TO EAT.</p>

Today we are going to eat a snack that reminds us of a star. Before we eat our snack, let's fold our hands and say a prayer. Repeat after me.

Dear God, Dear God,
We love you. We love you.
Thank you for King Jesus. Thank you for King Jesus.
We worship Jesus. We worship Jesus.
Thank you, thank you, thank you. Thank you, thank you, thank you.
In Jesus' name. In Jesus' name.
Amen. Amen.

Pass out a napkin and cup of water to each child.

I am going to give you a piece of bread (or tortilla), but don't eat it yet. You are going to cut a star into the bread. Then we will decorate it with some sparkly cinnamon sugar. Go around table and help child sprinkle some cinnamon/sugar on piece of buttered bread. Next, help child cut a star in bread. They can eat the scraps also. **See how your star sparkles just like a real star? You can eat your sparkly star now.**

Let's practice the Take Home Point. I'll say it first and you repeat after me: *Worship Jesus. Worship Jesus.

Let's sing our song of the week.

Song: to the tune of *Row, Row, Row Your Boat*
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Activity 3: Craft

Children take pride in making something themselves. Resist trying to do too much for children so that they can say, "I did it myself."

Supplies:

- Copies of Appendix A on cardstock, one per child
- Water color paints
- Cotton swabs
- Paint shirts
- Optional: glitter, glue, tray

Boys and girls, today we are going to decorate some stars. They will remind us of the star that the wise men followed to find Jesus. First

we will put on our paint shirts. Now I want you to paint your stars any way that you want. If using the optional glitter, etc, have the children put their craft on a tray. Now they can put on some glue with a cotton swab and sprinkle glitter on star.

Let's practice the Take Home Point. I'll say it first and you repeat after me: *Worship Jesus. Worship Jesus.

Let's sing our song of the week.

Song: to the tune of *Row, Row, Row Your Boat*
Capitalized letters indicate emphasis on that syllable when the rhyme is sung.

**WORSHIP JE-e-SUS.
HE'S the SON of GOD.
PRAISE him, PRAISE him, PRAISE him.
HE'S the SON of GOD.**

Let's pray now. Fold your hands and repeat after me:

**Dear God, Dear God,
We love you. We love you.
Thank you for King Jesus. Thank you for King Jesus.
We worship Jesus. We worship Jesus.
Thank you, thank you, thank you. Thank you, thank you, thank you.
In Jesus' name. In Jesus' name.
Amen. Amen.**

Activity 4: Games

Choose one or both games to play. Children with lots of wiggles should play the Movement Game first.

Learning Game

Supplies:

- *flashlight*

Today we are going to play a game called *Is It In the Sky?* Was the star that led the wise men to Jesus in the sky? Yes it was. After you answer the question and tell me what I am describing, you can do the actions.

- 1. Is it in the sky if it is fluffy and white and floating up high? Yes, it's a cloud. Let's pretend we are a cloud floating in the sky.**

2. **Is it in the sky if it has four wheels and says, “honk, honk?”** No, it's a car. **Let's all say, “honk, honk.”**
3. **Is it in the sky if it is flapping it's wings and saying “tweet, tweet?”** Yes, it's a bird. **Let's all flap our wings.**
4. **Is it in the sky if it is chasing a ball and barking?** No, it's a dog. **Let's all bark like a dog.**
5. **Is it in the sky if it is round, yellow and really hot in the daytime?** Yes, it's the sun. **Let's make our arms into a great big ball.**
6. **Is it in the sky if it is swimming and has fins?** No, it's a fish. **Let's all make a fish face.**
7. **Is it in the sky if it has wings, wheels and passengers inside?** Yes, it's an airplane. **Let's fly around the room like an airplane.**
8. **Is it in the sky if it drinks a bottle, wears diapers and says, “ga-ga-goo-goo?”** No, it's a baby. **Let's all talk like a baby.**
9. **Is it in the sky if it is hopping around in the water?** No. It's a frog. **Let's all hop like a frog.**
10. **Is it in the sky if it is bright and led the wise men to Baby Jesus?** Yes, it's a star. **Let's all follow the pretend star.** (Lead the children around the room with the flashlight.)

Movement Game

Supplies:

- *Rope*
- *Hula hoop*
- *Three bean bags*
- *One beach ball*

Today we learned that the wise men followed a star to find Baby Jesus. Our game is called *Follow What I Do*.

We are going to learn to follow someone leading us, just like the wise men followed the star to find King Jesus. First, I will be the leader and then you can each take turns leading the rest of the class. You get to choose what activity you want everyone to do with our supplies. You can hop in the hula hoop or roll it or walk around it. You can throw the bean bags in the hula hoop on the floor or while someone is holding it. You can bounce the beach ball across the rope or roll it next to the rope. Use your imaginations to have fun leading the children like the star led the wise men.

Let's practice the Take Home Point. I'll say it first and you repeat after me: *Worship Jesus. Worship Jesus.

Let's sing our song of the week.

Song: to the tune of *Row, Row, Row Your Boat*

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Amen. Amen.

Large Group Wrap-Up (5-10 minutes)



Lesson Review:

Presenter reviews the lesson by supplying key parts of the lesson with some words left out. Children are to supply the key words as the presenter shares the Bible Event.

See if you know the word I'm thinking of when I tell the Bible Event. If you know it, you may say it out loud without raising your hand.

After Baby Jesus was born, three wise men from a far away country wanted to find King Jesus. Show me what a king wears on his head. (Pretend to put a crown on your head.) What did the wise men follow in the sky to find the new king? (A star.) When they got close to where Jesus was, they asked bad King Herod if he knew where the new king was. King Herod was not happy that a new king was born. Did he want to worship King Jesus or did he want to hurt him? (Hurt him.) Did the wise men want to worship King Jesus? (Yes.) They gave King Jesus three gifts. Did they give him a bicycle? (No.) Did they give him a pet monkey? (No.) Did they give him a wagon? (No.) They gave him gold and frankincense and myrrh. When it was time for the wise men to leave, God told them in a dream not to go back to King Herod. Did the wise men obey God and go home a different way? (Yes.)

Lesson Prayer:

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

Dear God, Dear God,

We love you. We love you.

Thank you for King Jesus. Thank you for King Jesus.

We worship Jesus. We worship Jesus.

Thank you, thank you, thank you. Thank you, thank you, thank you.

In Jesus' name. In Jesus' name.

Amen. Amen.

Lesson Song:

Let's sing our song of the week.

Song: to the tune of *Row, Row, Row Your Boat*

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HE'S the SON of GOD.
PRAISE him, PRAISE him, PRAISE him.
HE'S the SON of GOD.**

Take Home Point:

Let's practice the Take Home Point. I'll say it first and you repeat after me: ***Worship Jesus. Worship Jesus.**

Lead the children in singing songs from a CD until parents begin arriving. Let parents know that they are welcome to join in. Dismiss by handing out God Talk at Home.

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WORSHIP

JESUS

