



At-A-Glance: Ages 10-12
God of Wonders: The Wonder of Advent
Unit 10, Lesson 52

The Magi Follow the Star

Lesson Aim: To know God leads all of us to Jesus.

THE WELCOME

MEET & GREET: What is the most amazing thing you have seen in the sky?

GAME: Follow the Star

THE WORSHIP THE GOD WHO COMES NEAR

Read Worship Scripture: Jeremiah 29:13.

Sing songs and worship God.

Bless and collect the offering.

Perform High Seas Adventures script or read storybook.

THE WORD GOD LED THE MAGI TO JESUS

Children sign note cards; place in Golden Bowl. Classroom Covenant.

Review: God sent an angel to announce the birth of Jesus to the shepherds.

Point to Jesus on Earth (Circa 1-33 A.D.). **Today, we will discover how God led men who lived far away and east of Israel to worship Jesus in Bethlehem.** Trace a path with your finger from the east of Israel to Bethlehem. Reveal Bible Story Scripture Reference: Matthew 2:1-12. Find It First. Highlight Key Verse: Matthew 2:11. Pray.

Many months (possibly a year or two) after Jesus was born, some very special visitors came to see Him. Let's read how they found Jesus. Read Matthew 2:1-12.

THE WAY GOD LEADS US TO JESUS

The visitors from the east who followed the star are called wise men or Magi. It is believed that they were scientists who studied the stars. While they most likely were not part of the Jewish faith, they would have studied the Bible prophecies about the coming King of the Jews. They knew the star was a sign that the promised King had been born.

They followed the star to Jerusalem. What did Herod's scholars say about the birthplace of the new King? (The Bible prophecies said it

would be in Bethlehem.) **Who sent the Magi to Bethlehem?** (King Herod.) **King Herod may have feared this child might grow up to lead the people against him. Knowing this, do you think he really wanted to worship baby Jesus?** (No, he wanted to know where Jesus was in order to harm him.)

In Bethlehem, how did the Magi find the newborn King? (The star stopped over the place where Jesus was.) **How did they feel when they saw the star stop?** (Overjoyed.) **How would you feel if you had seen the star stop there? What did the Magi do when they saw baby Jesus?** (They bowed down. They worshiped Him. They opened their treasures of gold, incense and myrrh to give him gifts fit for a king.)

CHRIST CONNECTION:

God used a bright star to lead the Magi to baby Jesus. Because of the Bible prophecies, they were looking for a light and a baby born to be the King of the Jews. As we read this next scripture, listen for the prophecies about the light that led them, the child's birth, and His reign as King. Reveal Isaiah 9:2, 6-7. Find It First. Highlight. Read.

Why did the Magi disobey King Herod's wishes and not return to his palace? (They had been warned in a dream.) **Name some of the ways God led the Magi?** (A star, the scriptures, Herod's advisors, a dream.) **Name some of the ways God leads us to Jesus today?** (Through the scriptures and through the Holy Spirit.) **God can use anything in the entire universe to lead people to Jesus. What has God used to lead you closer to Jesus?**

The Magi brought gifts fit for a king. What would you have brought to baby Jesus? What could you give Him as an offering now?

THE GOLDEN BOWL: Pray for individuals. Pray the Lord's Prayer.

FINAL FIVE MINUTES:

- TREASURE TREAT: Star-shaped treat or sticker
- W³ BETWEEN THE LINES Journal Entry #52
- OFFERING OF ART: The Magi following the star
- PRAYER REQUESTS
- BIBLE MEMORY VERSE SONG

GOT TIME?

SNACK: Star Sandwiches

GAME: Miracle Charades

CRAFT: "Led to Worship" Star

DISCUSSION: Magi Facts

BIBLE MEMORY VERSE ACTIVITIES: Appearing Angel, Memory Verse Circle

BIBLE TIMELINE REVIEW