



At-A-Glance: Ages 8-9
God of Wonders: The Wonder of Advent
Unit 10, Lesson 52

Following 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 2:1-2, 9-11. 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 2:1-2, 9-11.

THE WAY GOD LEADS US TO JESUS

Magi is another name for wise scientists who studied the stars.

When the Magi saw the star God sent, they knew it was very special. Why did God send the star? (Point to Jesus' birthplace, lead the Magi to see baby Jesus in Bethlehem.) **What did they call Jesus?** (King of the Jews.) **These men traveled thousands of miles to see a little baby King. Most of the people where they lived in the east did not worship God. The Magi may have studied the prophecies about the light that would be seen when the King of the Jews was born. Why**

do you think the Magi decided to follow the star to a place far away to worship this baby King?

Turn off the lights and shine a flashlight. **Pretend this light is the star. Pretend you are one of the Magi and are seeing the star for the very first time. Why would you decide to follow the star? God knew the Magi would follow the star and He used it to lead them to Jesus.**

What did the Magi say they were coming to do? (Worship Jesus.) **How did they worship Jesus?** (They bowed down and brought gifts to Him.)

Last time, we learned the shepherds worshiped baby Jesus. Who did God send to lead them? (An angel told them where baby Jesus was.) **What did God send to lead the Magi?** (The star.) **God sends everyone someone or something that can lead them to worship Jesus. Who or what has God sent to lead you to know Jesus?**

CHRIST CONNECTION:

Before they met Jesus, the Magi may have never worshiped God. However, they did worship Him after studying the skies and following the star. God has a purpose for everything He creates. Let's read about His purpose for the skies and heavens. Reveal Psalm 19:1. Find It First. Highlight. Read.

To declare the glory of God is to point others to Him and His greatness. How did the star over Bethlehem declare the glory of God and proclaim the work of His hands? (It pointed the Magi to Jesus.) **God creating a special star to announce Jesus' birth was an amazing miracle! How does this and other miracles point you to Jesus? What other things does God use to lead us to Jesus?**

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

FINAL FIVE MINUTES:

- TREASURE TREAT: Star-shaped treat or sticker
- DAILY WAY CHALLENGE
- 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