



Preschool

December 17-18, 2016

DATE

The Wise Men

LESSON TITLE

Matthew 2:1-12

WHERE TO FIND IT

The wise men worshipped Jesus!

MAIN POINT

schedule

First 10 minutes of the service hour:
Engage kids in cooperative play activities to help them connect to other kids

Next 5 minutes: Connect Time

Next 25 minutes: Large Group

Last 25 minutes: Snack and Small Group

tips

During Large Group, make sure you're an active participant alongside kids! Sit next to them and react to the presenter in fun, engaging ways. Try to have as much, if not more, energy than the preschoolers!

check-in/out

As kids leave, ask them about their star sticker, and what it means!

large group heads up

Today is all about the wise men's long journey to worship the new king, Jesus. We can worship and celebrate Jesus too!



connect time

GOAL: *Connect time is all about engaging kids in a short, interactive game to prepare them for Large Group.*

- **Clean up! (10 minutes after the service start time, when you get the 5-minute warning from the presenter)**
- Line up.
- While in line, tell kids we're going to hear about some guys who took a long, LONG trip to see baby Jesus.
- Pretend to "travel," either standing in place or around the room. Imagine what it was like:
 - Take BIG steps.
 - Jump over a creek
 - Pretend to climb a mountain.
 - Sit down around a campfire, because this trip took days!
 - Pretend to sleep outside.
 - Start walking again.
 - Tip toe across the sand.
 - Repeat steps or add your own until it's time to start Large Group!

As you walk into Large Group, encourage kids to put on their listening ears! Remind them that HOPS will be showing us how we should act in Large Group, so we have to listen!



instructions

Goal: Kids will (1) understand that the wise men traveled to worship Jesus and (2) recognize that we can worship Jesus too!

Why? Worshiping Jesus is an exciting privilege, and the wise men are a great example of how we can give our best to him!

Tip: Today has a lot of fun play-acting! There are several options to engage and interact with the story; decide ahead of time if you want to all of them, or just a few. Whatever works best for your room!

small group

REVIEW THE STORY

1. After Jesus was born, who did the angels go tell about it? (Hint: they were in fields taking care of sheep—shepherds!)
2. What did the shepherds do when they found out Jesus was born? (They went and worshipped him.)
3. What appeared in the sky when Jesus was born? (A star)
4. Who followed the star to find Jesus? The wise men.)
5. What did the wise men do when they found Jesus? (Worshipped him; gave gifts.)
6. How can WE worship Jesus? (Sing to him, pray to him, tell him we love him, dance for him, give him gifts, bow to him, etc.)

MAKE IT PERSONAL

*Reenact today's story in several different ways!

- Hang the **large, gold star** somewhere in the room using **string** or **tape**; then take a long trip to find the star! Let each kid choose something in the room to "pack" and carry on the journey. (As you "travel," act tired, and take crazy steps across mountains, down valleys, jumping over creeks, etc, like during Connect Time. You could do it like "Follow the Leader" too if you want!)
- Once you "reach" the star, bow, sing, and dance to worship Jesus! (Play music.)
- Next, play hide and seek with the star, so that kids pretend to be the wise men! Give kids turns to hide it somewhere in the room, and then let others find it. Then bow, sing, and dance to worship Jesus! (Play music.)
- Let kids take turns holding the star and leading the room in a parade as kids follow the star like the wise men. Then bow, sing, and dance to worship Jesus! (Play music. If there's not time for every kid to get a turn, just lead yourself.)
- Give each kid a **star sticker** to remind them of how God led the wise men to Jesus!

(Continued on next page.)

*Extra time? Have kids do a **coloring sheet**. After that, pretend to be the shepherds, and take care of your “sheep.” Then jump around the room and celebrate Jesus some more!*

special notes

Make sure you leave time in the lesson to connect how the wise men worshipped, and so can we! Talk about the specific ways we can worship, and how those are just like what the wise men/magi did!

presenter tips

Find ways to keep kids engaged by having them repeat a word or phrase, act something out, or do a fun motion. Every couple minutes try to give them a way to engage verbally or physically!

script

WELCOME AND INTRO

Main Goal: Review the beginning of God's story and rescue plan.

Notes:

- ***Click to play intro music.**
- **Say:** Hi Friends! Welcome to Kids' Club. I'm _____ and I'm really glad you're here today. Before we get started, I want you to meet my friend HOPS.
- **Video: HOPS Put your listening ears on!**
- **Say:** (Holding up the **Bible**.) *This* is God's story. Out of all the stories in the world, this is the most important. Do you know what it's called? (Let kids respond "the Bible.") That's right, the Bible! It's God's Rescue plan. It shows us how He rescued us from all the wrong things in the world.
- **Say:** In the beginning, God made the whole world and everything in it. He created the sun and the moon, the water and the land, the plants and the animals, and people like you and me! Everything was good. Give me a big thumbs up! (Let kids respond. Then change your tone.)
- **Say:** But THEN, something bad happened. Adam and Eve disobeyed God, and all the wrong things came into the world. Things like sadness and death. Show me your sad face. (Let kids respond.)
- **Say:** Even though Adam and Eve disobeyed God, God loved them anyway! He planned a great rescue so that Adam and Eve, and you and me, could be close to God again! Do you know who the Rescuer is? (Let kids say: Jesus!)

JESUS' BIRTH

Main Goal: Review how Jesus was born.

- **(Image: Suitcase)** We talked about how Mary and Joseph went on a long trip where they had to walk a long way. And at the end of that long trip, Mary had the baby Jesus!
- **(Image: Animals.)** He was born outside with animals and had to put him in a manger, which is like the animal's dinner bowl! (Point out a few details in the picture—animals around, Joseph and Mary, etc.)

THE SHEPHERDS REJOICE

Main Goal: Understand how the angels announced Jesus' arrival to the shepherds, so they worshipped!

- **(Image: Shepherds.)** Then, angels told some shepherds—people that take care of sheep—that the Rescuer had been born! The angels told the shepherds that Jesus was nearby...so they RAN to go see baby Jesus. Can you guys pretend to run in place? (Let kids pretend—standing or sitting, your choice—to run in place).
- **Say:** The shepherds got to go and see Jesus with their own eyes. And do you know what they did when they saw Jesus? They WORSHIPPED him.
- **Ask:** Can you guys say "worship"? (Let kids say: worship). That means they adored him. They might have bowed down in front of him, like this. (Bow down.) They might have prayed to him. Maybe they told him how wonderful he was and how happy they were that he's here!

THE WISE MEN SEEK JESUS

Main Goal: Tell the story of how the magi (wise men) sought Jesus by following a star.

- **Say:** Well, guess what else happened that night? Some other people got to find out about Jesus' birth. See, when Jesus was born, a special STAR appeared in the night sky.
- **(Loop: Stars)(Play for as long as you want.)** Some men called magi saw it. Can you guys say "magi"? (Let kids say: magi.) Magi means *wise men*.
- **Say:** When the magi saw the star, they wanted to find the Rescuer, the baby king! But they had to take a long, long trip to see Jesus. Let's pretend to take a long, long trip. Imagine you've been walking for days and are SO tired. (Lead kids in walking in place or walking around the room.) Whew! You guys can have a seat.
- **Say:** The wise men finally made it. We're going to watch a video about what the wise men did when they found Jesus. As you watch, see if you can figure out what it is!
- **Video: The Wise Men**

THE WISE MEN WORSHIP

Main Goal: See how the wise men worshipped Jesus!

- **Ask:** What did they do when they finally found Jesus? (Let kids respond.) Yeah, they did what the shepherds did! They worshipped Jesus.
- **Say:** They bowed down (demonstrate) like the shepherds and gave Jesus gifts even though they had never met him. They wanted to show Jesus they LOVE him! Usually, we only give gifts to people we love.
- **Say:** You guys know what's really cool about this story? God LOVED it when the shepherds and wise men worshipped him. And he loves it when WE worship him too!
- **Say:** There are LOTS of ways to worship and show Jesus we love him. We can say nice things like, "I love you, Jesus!" Let's do that together. (Let kids say: I love you Jesus.) Hey, we just worshiped God! We can tell him he's great by saying, "Jesus, you're the king!" (Lead kids in saying: Jesus, you're the king!) We just worshiped him again! Good job everybody.

WRAP UP AND WORSHIP

Main Goal: Help kids interact through prayer and worship!

- **Say:** Another way to worship is to pray! Let's do that right now.
- **Pray (Breaking it into small, repeatable phrases):** Dear Jesus. We love you so much! We want to worship you everyday. Thank you for rescuing us. Aaaa-men!
- **Set up worship:** I bet you guys know what we're gonna do now....we're gonna WORSHIP some more! Let's stand up, and sing and dance about how much Jesus loves us.
- **Music Video: Be Strong Take Courage**
- **Song: Thank You Lord**
- **Music Video: Boss of Me**

PREP needs



connect time supplies

“Traveling” game - no supplies needed

small group supplies

Per group: Bible, markers

Per kid: Coloring page, 1 star sticker (OT: IN-9/1339)

Per room: 1 gold star (OT: IN-70/1154; reused each service), tape, yarn (5 feet long)

large group supplies

Per Group: Bible

a/v needs

1. Song slide: for when kids enter the room (All that You Need instrumental; mp3 only; can be downloaded on website)
2. HOPS: Put your listening ears on! (<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=FhSEbtZBg0&feature=youtu.be>)
3. Image: Suitcase
4. Image: Animals
5. Image: Shepherds
6. Loop: Stars (<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=oWA38bbmfGI>; repeating)
7. Video: Wise Men (KC/SM media videos songs>videos>misc) - make SURE it's this animated video: <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=4qxqCEqf0N0>
8. Music Video: Be Strong Take Courage (<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=yx5pCwTjB2Y&feature=youtu.be>)
9. Song: Thank You Lord (KC/SM media videos songs>songs>songs with slides)
10. Music Video: Boss of Me (<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=gCXNJULqrVk&feature=youtu.be>)

connect questions

Tell me about the wise men.
How can we worship Jesus?

name

