



CREATION AND THE BEGINNING OF HUMAN HISTORY

#C4 - The Light of The World
John 3:1-21

PICTURES NEEDED

- C4-1 Capitol Christmas tree
- C4-5 Wise men following the star

REVIEW

- **The Big Question Review:** How is Jesus the Lamb of God?

Jesus lived a perfect life and shed his blood to redeem us from our sin.

- **Lesson Rhyme:** Practice the lesson rhyme with movements.

W—W	Make sign of W
Worship	Put palms together as in prayer, move up and out
The one and only	Index finger up
King	Put hands on head like a crown
W—W—Worship	Same as above
For the gift	Put both hands in front palms up like offering a gift
That he did bring	Bow down with hands still in gift position



LESSON CONTENT

- **Introduction:** Show visual

What is this a picture of? (picture C4-1)

This Christmas tree was put up in front of the capitol building in Washington, D.C., which is where the government leaders of the United States work.

Why does this Christmas tree, like so many others, have a star on top? The star reminds us at Christmas how God led the wise men to the baby Jesus.

(picture C4-5) The wise men saw a special star in the sky and followed it from far away to find the baby Jesus. They set out on a quest. A quest is a search for something. The wise men were wise because they saw the star and understood that it was a sign from God. They thought it showed that a special king had been born and they wanted to search for the king and honor him. Who was the king they were searching for? Where did they find Jesus?

Jesus said that he is the light of the world. What does light do for us? What does the light of Jesus do for us? Many people do not see Jesus as the Light. They like darkness better than the light of Jesus.

The big question for this week is: Why do people reject Jesus?

Listen as I read the lesson book and see if you can answer the question afterwards.

- **Lesson Book:** Read the book. Refer to the discussion questions that follow.
Title: What was the wise men's quest?

Page 1 - Numbers 24:17

(picture of wise men looking at star)

Far away from Bethlehem,
the town of Jesus' birth,
Some wise men looked up in the sky
far above the earth.
A bright unusual star in the sky
was what was seen.
They questioned and they wondered
what that different star could mean.

Page 2 - Matthew 2:4-5

(picture of wise men on camels)

They thought the star was showing
there was born a special king.
They determined they should find him
and royal gifts should bring.
And so they started on their quest,
riding camels far,
Following the leading
of that very special star.

Page 3 -2 Peter 1:19

(picture of wise men and King Herod)

The star hung over Judah
so the king they stopped to see,
Asking where the baby was,
where they would find him be.
Herod said to come back to him
when they found the baby king.
The place the baby lived
was news that they should bring

Page 4 - Matthew 2:9-10

(picture of wise men with Jesus)

So once again the wise men
looked up to the sky,
And followed that unusual star
shining down from high.
Till over a small dwelling
that star did come to rest,
And Mary they did find there
with Jesus at her chest.

Page 5 - Matthew 2:11-12

(picture of wise men going home)

In a dream God warned them
to go home a different way,
So Herod wouldn't know
where the baby king did lay.
Herod was quite evil,
he would have killed the child.
The Savior Herod needed
was a baby meek and mild.

Page 6 - Revelation 22:16

(picture of a star)

The wise men are remembered
for the gifts that they did bring,
Following a star
on their quest to find the king.
The star it should remind us
that Jesus is our light,
Cleansing us from sin,
and making dark hearts right.

DISCUSSION QUESTIONS

Page 1: Where did the wise men live? What did the wise men see in the sky? How did they respond to seeing the star?

Page 2: What did the wise men think the star was showing? What did they decide to do?

Page 3: To what place did the star lead the wise men? Who was the king there? What did they ask the king? Why was the king puzzled? Why wasn't the baby at the king's palace?

Page 4: Where did the star come to rest? What did they find there? What did they do with their gifts?

Page 5: Why didn't the wise men go back to King Herod? What did King Herod want to do? Why would he want to do that? Who needs a Savior? Why?

Page 6: What can we learn from the wise men? What should the star at Christmas remind us of? Why is that important to remember?

Review: What did the wise men see in the sky? To what place did the star lead the wise men? Who was the king there? Where did the star come to rest? What did they do with their gifts? Why didn't the wise men go back to King Herod? What should the star at Christmas remind us of?

Prayer: Pray that you would have a heart like the wise men that seeks after Jesus. Pray that you would truly give your life to Jesus to follow him and that his light would be in your heart so you would do what is right.

The Big Question: Why do people reject Jesus?

People reject Jesus because they love darkness instead of light.

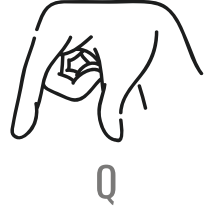
ACTIVITIES

Any age appropriate activity can be included which fits into the club time. The activities with a star are included on the class notes handout sheet.

★ **Lesson Rhyme:** Practice the lesson rhyme with movements.

What was the wise men's quest?

Q—Q	Make sign of Q
Quest	Move sign of Q up and down across front of body
Following the star	Put hand up at face level palm facing out and move across body, wiggling fingers like twinkling star
Q—Q—Quest	Same as above
Riding camels far	Move hand palm down fingers curved in front of body like a car moving along a road



★ **Activity:** Tracing

Instructions: Trace over the star to remember the special star the wise men saw.

★ **Coloring:** Color in the lesson picture.

★ **Letter/Sound Recognition:** Say the sound of and trace over each letter in the boxes.
With which sound does quest begin?

• **Craft:** Christmas Tree Ornament – star of David

Make Star of David (six-pointed star) as a reminder of that the Savior would come from the line of David and is the light of the world.

Materials: craft sticks, glue, glitter glue, thin ribbon

Preparation: Cut ribbon into 8" lengths.

Instructions: Take six craft sticks and glue them together to make two equilateral triangles. Glue the triangles together to make a Star of David. If desired apply glitter glue to the craft sticks. When dry string a ribbon loop through the star to hang it from.

★ **Song:** Twinkle, Twinkle Little Star (Adaptation)

Twinkle twinkle little star
How I wonder what you are
Up above the sky so high
Like a diamond in the sky
Twinkle twinkle little star
How I wonder what you are

Twinkle twinkle every star
In the heavens oh so far
Through the darkness shining bright
Showing Jesus is our light
Twinkle twinkle every star
In the heavens oh so far

Twinkle twinkle special star
Wisemen saw you from afar
Followed you to find the king
Riding camels, gifts did bring
Twinkle twinkle special star
Wisemen saw you from afar

The journal is passed out at the end of class for the students to complete at home. It has six poetic readings and related Bible verses. It would be beneficial for the teacher to read through and be familiar with its content.