

Book Introduction

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?

Discussion Questions

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

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

Day 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?

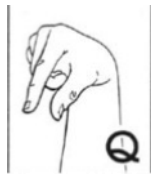
Day 4: Where did the star come to rest? What did they find there? What did they do with their gifts?

Day 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?

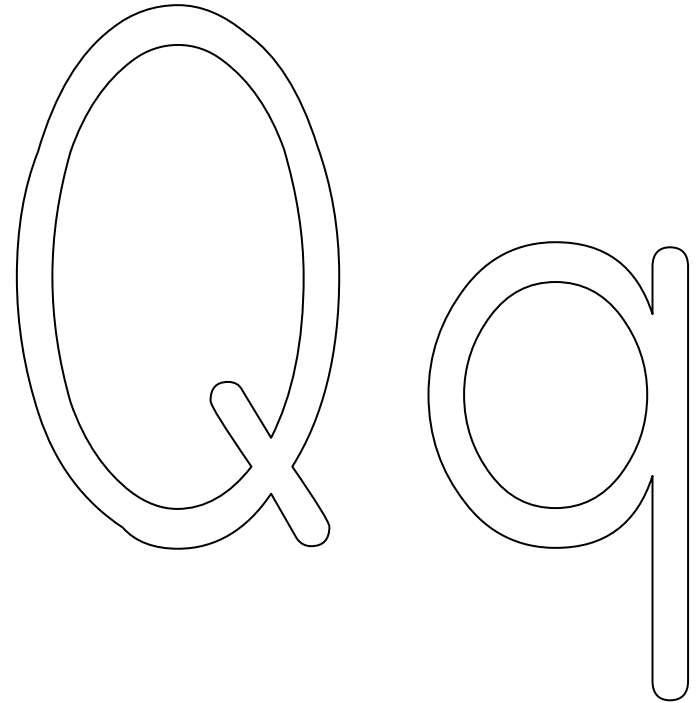
Day 6: What can we learn from the wise men? What should the star at Christmas remind us of? Why is that important to remember?

Lesson Rhyme

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, Wiggle 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



What was the wise men's quest?



Q—Q—Quest

Following the star

Q—Q—Quest

Riding camels far

Day 1 Draw a picture of the wise men looking at the 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.

Day 6 Draw a picture of the star leading the wise men.

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.

Numbers 24:17: ¹⁷ "I see him, but not now; I behold him, but not near. A star will come out of Jacob; a scepter will rise out of Israel.

Revelation 22:16: ¹⁶ "I, Jesus, have sent my angel to give you this testimony for the churches. I am the Root and the Offspring of David, and the bright Morning Star."

Day 5 Draw a picture of the wise men on camels.

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.

Day 2 Draw a picture of wise men reading a scroll.

They studied ancient documents,
they tried to understand
What special thing did happen
in some far off, foreign land.
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.

Matthew 2:11-12: ¹¹ On coming to the house, they saw the child with his mother Mary, and they bowed down and worshiped him. Then they opened their treasures and presented him with gifts of gold, frankincense and myrrh. ¹² And having been warned in a dream not to go back to Herod, they returned to their country by another route.

Matthew 2:4-5: ⁴ When he had called together all the people's chief priests and teachers of the law, he asked them where the Messiah was to be born. ⁵ "In Bethlehem in Judea," they replied, "for this is what the prophet has written

Day 3 Draw a picture of the 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.
King Herod was quite puzzled,
there was no baby there
So into the wise men's faces,
he could only stare.
He said to come back to him
when they found the baby king
The place the baby lived
was news that they should bring

Day 4 Draw a picture of the wise men and 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.
Their royal gifts they laid there,
down upon the ground.
Grateful that the one they sought
they had finally found.

2 Peter 1:19:¹⁹ We also have the prophetic message as something completely reliable, and you will do well to pay attention to it, as to a light shining in a dark place, until the day dawns and the morning star rises in your hearts.

Matthew 2:9-10:⁸ He sent them to Bethlehem and said, "Go and search carefully for the child. As soon as you find him, report to me, so that I too may go and worship him."⁹ After they had heard the king, they went on their way, and the star they had seen when it rose went ahead of them until it stopped over the place where the child was.¹⁰ When they saw the star, they were overjoyed.