

Child's Name: \_\_\_\_\_

## Lesson Passage—Matthew 2:1-9

After Jesus was born in Bethlehem in Judea, during the time of King Herod, Magi from the east came to Jerusalem<sup>2</sup> and asked, "Where is the one who has been born king of the Jews? We saw his star when it rose and have come to worship him."

<sup>3</sup>When King Herod heard this he was disturbed, and all Jerusalem with him. <sup>4</sup>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. <sup>5</sup>"In Bethlehem in Judea," they replied, "for this is what the prophet has written:

<sup>6</sup>"But you, Bethlehem, in the land of Judah, are by no means least among the rulers of Judah; for out of you will come a ruler who will shepherd my people Israel."

<sup>7</sup>Then Herod called the Magi secretly and found out from them the exact time the star had appeared. <sup>8</sup>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."

<sup>9</sup>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.

Through God's word we discover what is right and true.  
Then we live it out in all we say and do.



### The Christ of Christmas—4



### THIS WEEK'S BIG QUESTION

**Why do people reject Jesus?**

### MEMORY VERSE

#### John 3:19-20

*(This is the verdict: Light has come into the world, but men loved darkness instead of light because their deeds were evil.) Everyone who does evil hates the light, and will not come into the light for fear that his deeds will be exposed.*

# Thinking It Through

## Level 3—Parent Notes:

- **Daily Reading:** Depending on the age and ability of the child, or parent preference, the child may do the work in this journal independently or read with and dictate an answer to the parent. After reading the day’s rhyme and the Bible verse, the child should draw a picture that relates to that day’s reading and answer the question at the bottom of the page. Have the child answer questions about the day’s reading from the **Daily Reading Questions** at the back of the booklet. Personal ideas and additional questions from the parent can also be included.
- **Lesson Verse:** The lesson verse which answers the week’s big question should be practiced daily. One way to do this is to black out words in the verse each day and say the verse inserting the correct word. By the end of the week the whole verse would be blacked out and recited by memory. Depending on the age and/or ability of the child, either the whole verse or the part of the verse between brackets on the cover can be memorized.
- **Concluding Lesson:** The parent should discuss with the child the **Thinking it Through** questions: What important truth did you learn this week? How can you apply that truth in your life? After discussing the questions the child should write down (or dictate to the parent) the answers and a prayer at the end of the booklet. The child can then complete the other activities.
- **Completion:** If the student brings this booklet back to the teacher on Sunday, with each day’s work completed and the lesson verse memorized, the student will receive acknowledgement of a job well done.
- **Way to go, parents!** Your faithfulness in teaching your children the deed and statutes of the Lord isn’t always easy, but it honors God and will have an eternal impact. Keep up the good work! Remember Galatians 6:9, *Let us not become weary in doing good, for at the proper time we will reap a harvest if we do not give up.*

The important truth I learned this week is:

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I can apply that truth by:

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My prayer to God is:

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## Daily Reading 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?

## Concluding Lesson

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?

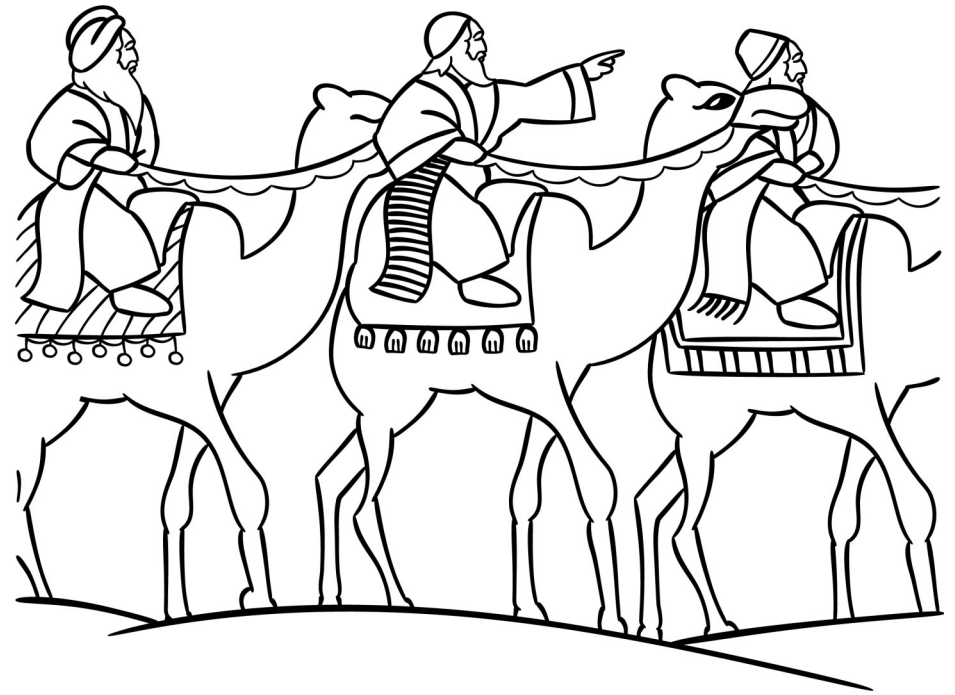
Prayer: Pray that you would have a heart like the wise men that seeks after Jesus. Pray that you would truly give your life to Jesus to follow him and that his light would be in your heart so you would do what is right.

Application: Think about someone who is in need that you can bless with a gift as the wise men blessed Jesus.

Thinking It Through: Have the child write or dictate what important truth was learned from the lesson, how he/she can apply that truth, and a prayer to God.

# Christmas 4

## Why do people reject Jesus?



People reject Jesus because they  
love darkness instead of light.

**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.

What does the verse mean?

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Numbers 24:17: <sup>17</sup> "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.

**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.

What does the verse mean?

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Revelation 22:16: <sup>16</sup> "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.

What does the verse mean?

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Matthew 2:11-12: <sup>11</sup> 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. <sup>12</sup> And having been warned in a dream not to go back to Herod, they returned to their country by another route.

## 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.

What does the verse mean?

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Matthew 2:4-5: <sup>4</sup> 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. <sup>5</sup> "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.

What does the verse mean?

Handwriting practice lines consisting of a solid top line, a dashed middle line, and a solid bottom line, repeated four times.

2 Peter 1:19: <sup>19</sup> 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.

What does the verse mean?

Handwriting practice lines consisting of a solid top line, a dashed middle line, and a solid bottom line, repeated four times.

Matthew 2:9-10: <sup>8</sup> 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." <sup>9</sup> 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. <sup>10</sup> When they saw the star, they were overjoyed.