

Child's Name: _____

Lesson Passage—Matthew 2:1-9

Now after Jesus was born in Bethlehem of Judea in the days of Herod the king, behold, wise men from the East came to Jerusalem, ²saying, "Where is He who has been born King of the Jews? For we have seen His star in the East and have come to worship Him."

³When Herod the king heard *this*, he was troubled, and all Jerusalem with him. ⁴And when he had gathered all the chief priests and scribes of the people together, he inquired of them where the Christ was to be born.

⁵So they said to him, "In Bethlehem of Judea, for thus it is written by the prophet:

⁶'But you, Bethlehem, *in* the land of Judah, Are not the least among the rulers of Judah; For out of you shall come a Ruler Who will shepherd My people Israel.' "

⁷Then Herod, when he had secretly called the wise men, determined from them what time the star appeared. ⁸And he sent them to Bethlehem and said, "Go and search carefully for the young Child, and when you have found *Him*, bring back word to me, that I may come and worship Him also."

⁹When they heard the king, they departed; and behold, the star which they had seen in the East went before them, till it came and stood over where the young 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

¹⁹(And this is the condemnation, that the light has come into the world, and men loved darkness rather than light, because their deeds were evil.) ²⁰For everyone practicing evil hates the light and does not come to the light, lest his deeds should 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, *And let us not grow weary while doing good, for in due season we shall reap if we do not lose heart.*

The important truth I learned this week is:

I can apply that truth by:

My prayer to God is:

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?

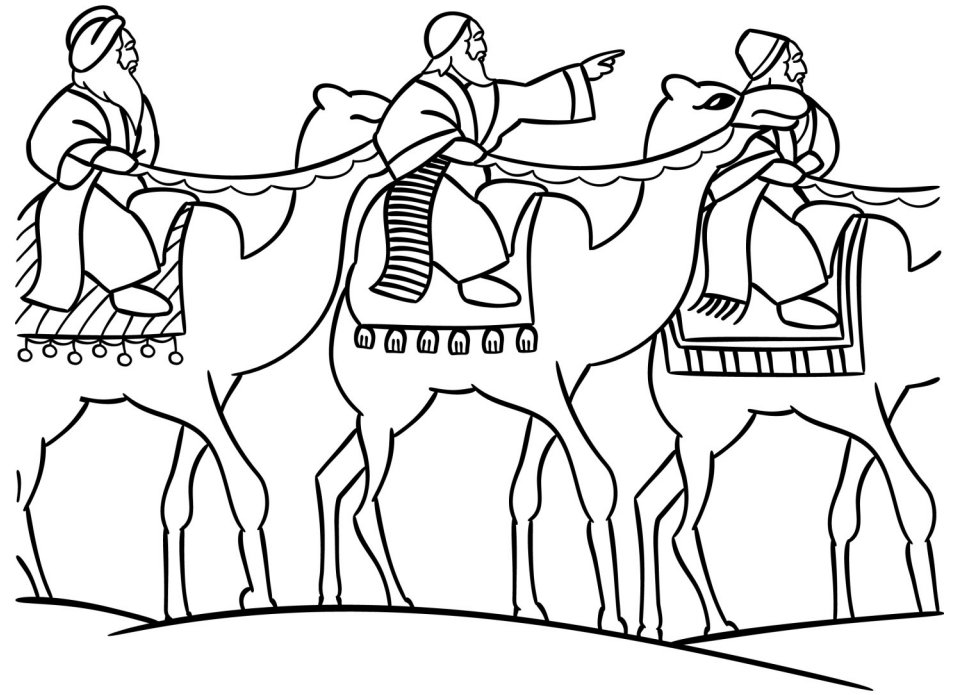
Prayer: Pray that you would have a heart like the wise men that seeks after Jesus. Pray that you would truly give your life to Jesus to follow him and that his light would be in your heart so you would do what is right.

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?

Numbers 24:17a: ¹⁷ "I see Him, but not now; I behold Him, but not near; A Star shall come out of Jacob; A Scepter shall 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?

Revelation 22:16: ¹⁶ "I, Jesus, have sent My angel to testify to you these things in the churches. I am the Root and the Offspring of David, the Bright and 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?

Matthew 2:11-12: ¹¹ And when they had come into the house, they saw the young Child with Mary His mother, and fell down and worshiped Him. And when they had opened their treasures, they presented gifts to Him: gold, frankincense, and myrrh.

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?

Matthew 2:4-5: ⁴ And when he had gathered all the chief priests and scribes of the people together, he inquired of them where the Christ was to be born. ⁵ So they said to him, "In Bethlehem of Judea, for thus it is written by the prophet:

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.

What does the verse mean?

2 Peter 1:19: ¹⁹ And so we have the prophetic word confirmed, which you do well to heed as a light that shines in a dark place, until the day dawns and the morning star rises in your hearts;

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?

Matthew 2:9-10: When they heard the king, they departed; and behold, the star which they had seen in the East went before them, till it came and stood over where the young Child was. ¹⁰ When they saw the star, they rejoiced with exceedingly great joy .