



# Wise Men Find Jesus

Matthew 2:1-12

Children’s minds are full of excitement and wonder. You can springboard from their natural enthusiasm to solidify the need for regular group and private worship. If they learn the importance of worshipping God at this age, they’ll be better prepared for life as they reach young adulthood. Use this lesson to help kids understand why we worship Jesus, and create an atmosphere of excitement and plant an important memory of worship.

LESSON	WHAT CHILDREN DO	SUPPLIES	EASY PREP
<b>1</b> Getting Started	<b>Giving and Getting</b> <i>(about 10 min.)</i> Make facial expressions and gestures to show how they feel when they get or give a gift.		
<b>2</b> Bible Exploration	<b>What’s Up, Wise Men?</b> <i>(about 25 min.)</i> Develop questions to ask wise men, and do a talk show.	Bibles, CD player, index cards, pens <b>Teacher Pack:</b> CD	Set up the room to look like a talk-show setting with 3 chairs in the front facing the audience.

*Bold text within the lesson is spoken text.*



### ► Bible Point

Jesus deserves our worship.

### Key Verse

“For the Lord is good and his love endures forever; his faithfulness continues through all generations” (Psalm 100:5).

### Weaving Faith Into Life

Children will worship Jesus with their talents and abilities.



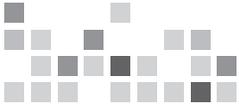


LESSON	WHAT CHILDREN DO	SUPPLIES	EASY PREP
<b>3</b> Weaving Faith Into Life	<b>The Lord Is Good</b> <i>(about 15 min.)</i> Explore this week's Key Verse.	Bible Truth Sleuth, CD player, copies of the lyrics page (at the end of this lesson), pens <b>Teacher Pack:</b> CD	Tear out the Lesson 5 pages from each Bible Truth Sleuth student book.
	<b>My Gift for Jesus</b> <i>(about 10 min.)</i> List their gifts and talents, and describe how they can be used for Jesus.	Bible Truth Sleuth, pens	
<b>4</b> Lasting Impressions	<b>Daily Challenges</b> <i>(about 5 min.)</i> Choose a Daily Challenge to apply God's Word.	Bible Truth Sleuth	
	<b>Weaving Faith at Home</b> <i>(about 2 min.)</i> Talk about how to share what they learned with their families.		

***Bold text within the lesson is spoken text.***







## 1 GETTING STARTED

### Giving and Getting

#### What You'll Do ■■■■■■

Welcome kids warmly as they arrive, and ask them how their week went.

Say: **To get started today I'm going to describe different types of experiences having to do with gifts. You'll each make a facial expression that best shows what feeling you associate with each experience.**

Have kids stand in a circle. Say: **Face the outside of the circle while I make each statement. Then on the count of three, you'll turn around and show everyone the expression you're making.**

Be sure to tell kids to face away from the circle before you make the next statement. You can use the following statements or make up your own.

- You were given a puppy for Christmas.
- You just opened a gift from your grandmother—underwear and itchy wool socks.
- Your parents just surprised you with a new bike.
- You gave a favorite picture of yourself to a friend.
- You gave your mom the night off and washed the dishes for her.
- You told your sister you'd do her chores for her and found out her chore was to clean the cat's litter box.

#### Talk With Kids ■■■■

Lead kids in this discussion.

Ask:

- What do you like about receiving gifts you were hoping for?
- Why do you or don't you think you always deserve the gifts you get?
- What do you like about giving a gift to someone else?
- Why do you give gifts to others?

Say: **Today we'll learn about the wise men who gave gifts to Jesus. Let's get into the Bible to find out that ► JESUS DESERVES OUR WORSHIP, how other people worshipped Jesus, and ways we can worship him, too!**





**2** BIBLE  
EXPLORATION

## What’s Up, Wise Men?

### What You’ll Do ■■■■■■

Say: **Jesus’ birth was a very happy and celebrated event. Many people celebrated Jesus’ birth—his parents Mary and Joseph, shepherds from the nearby fields, and even angels from heaven! Wise men from far in the East also came to worship Jesus after his birth. Today we’ll interview the wise men on the talk show “What’s Up, Wise Men?” and discover that they knew ► JESUS DESERVES OUR WORSHIP. Let’s read Matthew 2:1-12 from the Bible.**

Make sure kids have Bibles, and invite a willing child to read the passage aloud. Then have kids form groups of four. Distribute pens and index cards, and have groups come up with several questions they’d like to ask the wise men about their journey to meet Jesus and why they brought gifts for Jesus. They can write their questions on index cards in preparation for conducting an interview in a talk-show setting. After groups create their questions, have each group decide on roles: they’ll need three wise men and one talk-show host. The talk-show hosts will ask the questions and groups will take turns presenting their talk shows.

Say: **Now that we’ve read about the wise men and their time with Jesus, let’s conduct our talk shows.** Have kids take their places in the audience or in their roles as wise men or the talk-show host.

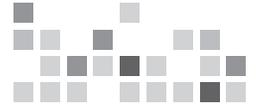
Say: **We’ve all heard about the wise men who found baby Jesus and worshipped him. Now we want to find out why! We want to hear from the people who were there. Let’s welcome the wise men!**

Lead kids in the audience in clapping and whistling as the first group members take their seats. Then say the following as you act like a talk-show host.

Say: **It appears that you’re scientists who study the stars. We understand that you saw a star that caused you to believe that a new king had been born. You went to see King Herod, and he told you to look in Bethlehem. You found a baby, gave him gifts, and went home. Now let’s discover more about why you chose to worship this baby.**

Have the talk show host from the first group ask the wise men the questions they prepared. Allow the wise men to respond. Each group will have a turn to present their talk show while the other kids sit in the audience.

After the last group presents, say: **Sounds like King Herod was mean and powerful. He would kill anyone who seemed to threaten his power and position. But we’ve**



### What’s Up, Wise Men? Supplies

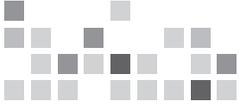
- .....
- Bibles
- CD player
- index cards
- pens
- Teacher Pack**
- CD: “King Herod’s Call-In” (track 9)

### What’s Up, Wise Men? Easy Prep

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Set up the room to look like a talk-show setting with 3 chairs in the front facing the audience.





got a surprise! King Herod's on the phone! Let's see what he has to say about the wise men and the king they were looking for. Play "King Herod's Call-In" (track 9 on the CD).

To close the show, say: **Thanks for tuning in to this episode of "What's Up, Wise Men?" Join us next time when we explore just what makes these men so wise.**

### Talk With Kids ■■■■

Lead kids in this discussion.

Ask:

- **The wise men traveled a long way with only a star as their guide to find Jesus. What does that tell us about how important Jesus was to them?**
- **What are some things that would motivate you to travel that far?**
- **Why do we worship Jesus?**

Say: **The wise men brought gifts to worship Jesus because ► JESUS DESERVES OUR WORSHIP. Let's find out how we can worship Jesus in our own lives.**

## 3 WEAVING FAITH INTO LIFE

### The Lord Is Good

#### The Lord Is Good Supplies

Bible Truth Sleuth  
CD player  
copies of the lyrics  
page (at the end of the  
lesson)

pens

#### Teacher Pack

CD: "His Love Endures  
Forever" (Psalm  
100:4-5) (track 8)

#### The Lord Is Good Easy Prep

Tear out the Lesson 5  
pages from each Bible  
Truth Sleuth student  
book.

### What You'll Do ■■■■

Say: ► **JESUS DESERVES OUR WORSHIP, and one way to worship Jesus is by singing songs to or about him. Let's sing a song of worship to praise Jesus and to help us remember reasons we worship Jesus.**

Pass out copies of the lyrics, and play "His Love Endures Forever" (Psalm 100:4-5) (track 8 on the CD), and sing the song with kids twice.



**Enter his gates with thanksgiving  
And his courts with praise;  
Give thanks to him and praise his name,  
For the Lord is good and his love endures forever.**

*(Repeat chorus.)*

**His faithfulness continues  
Through every generation.  
He is faithful.  
He is faithful,  
And I will praise him  
For as long as I live.**



**He is faithful;  
He is faithful.**

*(Sing chorus 2x.)*

**Enter his gates with thanksgiving  
And his courts with praise;  
Give thanks to him and praise his name,  
For the Lord is good and his love endures.  
For the Lord is good and his love endures forever.**

“His Love Endures Forever” (Psalm 100:4-5) by Jay Stocker. © 2005 Group Publishing, Inc. All rights reserved.

Say: **This song is our Key Verse for the week, Psalm 100:5: “For the Lord is good and his love endures forever; his faithfulness continues through all generations” (Psalm 100:5). The word *Lord* is a title that means something like a king or ruler—so when Jesus is called *Lord* it’s to show great respect.**

Distribute pens and this week’s Bible Truth Sleuth pages, and have kids find “The Lord Is Good.”

Say: **Our Key Verse talks about how the Lord is good to us, loves us, and is faithful to us. In each box, you can list some ways Jesus is these things to you.**

Have children find partners, and allow a few minutes for kids to talk about what they want to write on their lists. Encourage kids to think of at least three things for each list.

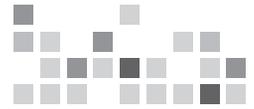
### **Talk With Kids** ■■■■

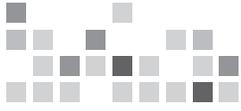
Lead kids in this discussion.

Ask:

- **Tell about the things you wrote on your lists.**
- **What have you done to worship God for those things?**
- **Based on what you wrote and discussed, why do you think God deserves our worship?**

Say: **You listed ways God loves you, is faithful to you, and is good to you. Our Key Verse tells us reasons ► JESUS DESERVES OUR WORSHIP. Just as there are so many reasons we can worship Jesus, there are lots of ways we can worship him. The wise men showed us one way and when we sang a song earlier, that was another way we can worship Jesus. It doesn’t matter so much *how* you worship Jesus as long as you’re showing him love and respect from your heart. Let’s think of some other ways we can worship Jesus.**





**My Gift for Jesus  
Supplies**

Bible Truth Sleuth  
pens

**Daily Challenges  
Supplies**

Bible Truth Sleuth

# My Gift for Jesus

## What You'll Do ■■■■■■

Say: ► **JESUS DESERVES OUR WORSHIP**, and we can worship him in many ways. One way is to use our gifts and talents to serve him.

Have kids find the “My Gift for Jesus” section on their Bible Truth Sleuth pages.

Say: List your gifts and talents on the left side of the gift. For example, you might write “I can sing,” or “I’m kind.” Allow time, and help kids as needed.

## Talk With Kids ■■■■

Lead kids in this discussion.

Ask:

- Tell about your talents and gifts.
- What can you do to use those talents and gifts to worship Jesus?
- Jesus loves every person very, very much. Because of that, serving or helping others with our talents is a great way to worship Jesus. Why do you think helping others shows respect and love for Jesus?

Say: The wise men used their talent of reading the stars to find Jesus and then shared what they had as they gave him gifts. Using our gifts and talents for Jesus is a great way to worship Jesus, too. We can use everything we have and everything we do to serve Jesus because ► **JESUS DESERVES OUR WORSHIP.**

# 4 LASTING IMPRESSIONS

## Daily Challenges

## What You'll Do ■■■■■■

Say: Let's think this week about how we can show that we know ► **JESUS DESERVES OUR WORSHIP.**

Have kids find this week's Daily Challenges on their Bible Truth Sleuth pages and choose one to do this week. They can choose one or more of these three options:

- Thank Jesus for the way he made you and others with special abilities. Then use those abilities to worship him!
- Ask your leader at church if you can use one of your talents to help at church.
- Ask God to help you know how he wants you to worship him with your gifts and abilities.





Make sure you choose a Daily Challenge as well, and tell kids what you chose. Kids will be more inclined to follow through on their commitments when they see you doing the same.

### Talk With Kids

Lead kids in this discussion.

Ask:

- **What's a practical way you're going to do your Daily Challenge? Include a time, a place, and other ideas.**

Say: **The wise men showed commitment to finding Jesus and worshipping him with gifts. Let's remember to speak and act from our hearts to show that ► JESUS DESERVES OUR WORSHIP as we follow through on our Daily Challenges this week.**

## Weaving Faith at Home

Encourage kids to talk with their parents about the Daily Challenges they chose and what they learned about worshipping Jesus. Kids can also do the activities in the "HomeConnect" section of their Bible Truth Sleuth pages with their families.

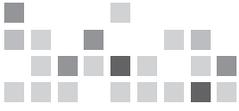
Talk to your Director about emailing the FREE FamilyConnect to all your church's families. Available at [group.com/digital](http://group.com/digital).

Take a couple of minutes to pray with your kids.

Have kids stand in a circle and think of a word or phrase they'd like to use to describe what they think about Jesus such as *good*, *loving*, *Lord*, or *best friend*. Then have them lift up their hands like they're giving a gift to Jesus as they say their word or phrase out loud one at a time.

Pray: **Jesus, I pray that all of us here today will be thankful for you, the greatest gift to us. We offer our words to you as gifts of praise and love. Thank you, Jesus. In your name, amen.**





## Lyrics

# His Love Endures Forever (Psalm 100:4-5)

*(Chorus)*

**Enter his gates with thanksgiving  
And his courts with praise;  
Give thanks to him and praise his name,  
For the Lord is good and his love endures forever.**

*(Repeat chorus.)*

**His faithfulness continues  
Through every generation.  
He is faithful.  
He is faithful,  
And I will praise him  
For as long as I live.  
He is faithful;  
He is faithful.**

*(Sing chorus 2x.)*

**Enter his gates with thanksgiving  
And his courts with praise;  
Give thanks to him and praise his name,  
For the Lord is good and his love endures.  
For the Lord is good and his love endures forever.**

"His Love Endures Forever" (Psalm 100:4-5) by Jay Stocker. © 2005 Group Publishing, Inc. All rights reserved.

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