



Use Week of:

Christmas • Session 4

Wise Men Visited Jesus

BIBLE PASSAGE: Matthew 2

STORY POINT: Jesus was born.

KEY PASSAGE: Galatians 4:4

CHRIST CONNECTION: Jesus is our
Savior and King.

Bible Story for Toddlers

A long time ago, God promised a special King would be born. Wise men from the east had heard about God's promise. They saw a bright star in the sky, and they knew the star meant the King was born. They traveled to Jerusalem. They thought the King of Israel would be born there. King Herod was not happy to hear about a new baby King. The priests told Herod the special King would be born in Bethlehem. The wise men hurried to Bethlehem and saw Jesus. They worshiped Jesus and gave Him gifts: gold, frankincense, and myrrh. An angel warned the wise men not to go back to Herod, so they went back home another way.

Babies Gospel Gems

- * The wise men followed a star to get to Jesus.
- * The wise men worshiped Jesus.
- * Jesus was born in Bethlehem.

Additional resources are available at gospelproject.com.

For free training and session-by-session help, visit <http://www.ministrygrid.com/web/thegospelproject>.

BABIES Activities

Look in the Bible

Provide hand-size Bibles for babies to handle. Open your Bible to Matthew 2. Show the Bible story picture as you say the Gospel Gems in a soothing voice. Read the key passage card.

SAY: The wise men knew Jesus was coming. They followed a star to get to Jesus. The wise men worshiped Jesus because Jesus is our Savior and King.
JESUS WAS BORN. [*Pray.*]

Sing a Bible story song

Sing to the tune of “Jingle Bells”:

“Jesus is, Jesus is, Jesus is God’s Son!
God sent Jesus to be born
Because He loves us so!”

SAY: The wise men worshiped Jesus because Jesus is our Savior and King. **JESUS WAS BORN** in Bethlehem just as God promised.

Decorate a gift

Provide a gift box wrapped in colorful Christmas wrapping paper. Encourage babies to stick adhesive gift bows to the gift box. Say the Story Point or Christ Connection as babies play.

SAY: **JESUS WAS BORN** in Bethlehem. The wise men followed a star to get to Jesus. The wise men worshiped Jesus as King and brought Jesus gifts.

Reach for a star

Tie a lightweight, unbreakable star-shaped ornament to a ribbon. Hold the star above the babies so they can reach for it. Be mindful of sharp or pointed edges.

SAY: The wise men followed a star to get to Jesus. **JESUS WAS BORN** in Bethlehem. The wise men worshiped Jesus as King.

Check diapers, serve bottles if needed, and release babies to parents according to your church’s security guidelines. Give parents today’s big picture card. Repeat the Gospel Gems and Bible-learning activities for babies who stay a second hour.

TODDLER Activities

Circle time (5 minutes)

Provide small Bibles for toddlers to handle. Say the Bible is God's words. Read the key passage card and guide toddlers to say it. Open your Bible to Matthew 2. Show the Bible story picture as you tell the Bible story. Say the Story Point and Christ Connection. Pray for the toddlers.

Make star art

Tape a simple star on heavyweight paper with painter's tape for each toddler. Place it inside a freezer bag with a squirt of glitter paint, and duct tape it shut. Guide the toddlers to squeeze the paint around the bag with their fingers. Remove the paper and carefully peel away the painter's tape. Set aside the artwork to dry.

SAY: The wise men followed a star to get to Jesus! **JESUS WAS BORN** in Bethlehem. Wise men worshiped Jesus as King.

Read about God's plan

Provide the "God Sent Jesus Book" printable and read it to the toddlers. Point out previous Bible stories. Remind toddlers that God sent Jesus because He loves us.

SAY: God planned to send Jesus to earth as a baby. **JESUS WAS BORN** just like God planned. Wise men worshiped Jesus because He is King.

Give gifts

Wrap favorite toys in colorful Christmas wrapping paper or place them in gift bags. Place the Bible storybook with the key passage card in one of the gifts. Invite toddlers to unwrap the boxes and see the gifts.

SAY: Wise men had been waiting for a special king to be born. The wise men followed a star to get to Jesus. The wise men worshiped Jesus and gave Him gifts. **JESUS WAS BORN** to be our Savior and King.

Find the biggest star

Poke holes in heavyweight black paper. Make one hole much bigger than the others. Dim the lights and shine a flashlight underneath the paper. Invite toddlers to point to the biggest star.

SAY: The wise men followed a star to get to Jesus. **JESUS WAS BORN.**

BONUS Teaching Hour

SESSION TITLE: Wise Men Visited Jesus

BIBLE PASSAGE: Matthew 2

KEY PASSAGE: Galatians 4:4

STORY POINT: Jesus was born.

CHRIST CONNECTION: Jesus is our Savior and King.

Transition activity: Sing a song

Sing to the tune of “Are You Sleeping?”:

“I am looking, I am looking, for a star, for a star!

The star that leads to Jesus, the star that leads to Jesus.

The true King, the true King.”

SAY: The wise men were waiting for God to send Jesus to earth. They followed a star to get to Jesus. The wise men worshiped Jesus and gave Him gifts.

JESUS WAS BORN in Bethlehem. Jesus is our Savior and King!

Look for stars

Cut large yellow stars out of construction paper and hide them in plain sight. Invite toddlers to “search” for the stars.

SAY: God placed a bright star in the sky when **JESUS WAS BORN**. The wise men followed a star to get to Jesus. The wise men worshiped Jesus.

Explore sensory bags

Post an allergy alert. Provide three gift bags. Inside the first, place a toy plate wrapped in gold wrapping paper. In the second, place a sealed jar of perfume. In the third, place a sealed jar of oil. Invite toddlers to take turns opening the bags.

SAY: The wise men worshiped Jesus and gave Him gifts. **JESUS WAS BORN!**

Check diapers, serve a snack if needed, and release toddlers to parents according to your church's security procedures. Give parents today's big picture card to reinforce today's Bible story, Story Point, or Gospel Gems throughout the week.