### Preschool Winter Lesson 5: Wise Men Come to Worship Jesus!

**Objectives:** Students will...

- 1) Recognize the importance of Jesus' birth and that He is the greatest gift ever given Matthew 2:1-2, 9-11
- 2) Do activities to reinforce the idea that it is good news that Jesus was born and He deserves worship!
- 3) See the need to worship Jesus today at church services by looking at the account of the wise men

#### Accommodations: How will I accommodate individual needs of students?

• See Lesson 1 for Ideas

**Supplies:** Check with coordinator to ensure supplies are ready.

#### **Teacher Materials (provided in classroom)**

- Pens/Pencils
- Bible (please bring your own)
- Crayons/Pencil Crayons
- Attendance Charts from previous class one per student
- Wise Men Activity Sheet one per student
- Stickers for Wise Men 20 stickers on a page 2 stickers per student
- Scissors to cut out stickers before class
- Glue sticks and/or Tape to share
- Wise Men Bring Gifts Page one per student
- Wise Men Bring Gifts Stickers 3 stickers per student one of each cut out before class

#### Depending on time choose some optional activities to do and gather supplies

- Follow the Star to Jesus print sheet on construction or cardstock paper and cut out one star per student there are two stars on a page
- Popsicle Stick one per student taped onto star
- Tape and Scissors to cut star and tape stick to star before class
- Gold tissue paper, wrapping paper, or any pieces of paper that are yellow or gold colored to glue onto students stars
- Glue sticks to share
- Play dough enough for each child
- Bibles one per child
- Snack Star shaped crackers, cheese, or fruit pieces enough for each student along with glass of water and napkin

#### 1) Introduction to lesson:

As students enter, welcome them and help find a chair to sit at. Thank them for coming. Take attendance (using attendance charts from previous class). Let each child color a star in their attendance chart for this week, if a new child arrives put their name on a chart for them and let them color in a star.

Tell them, "Today we are going to talk about worship. When we worship God and Jesus, we tell or show them how wonderful we know they are. We sing, we pray and we give when we worship at Sunday worship. That makes God and Jesus happy. Today we will read of some wise men who knew it was very important to worship God and His Son Jesus! Let's all say: "Thank you God for Jesus Your Son" (Help students repeat)

#### Let's sing some songs to get us started!

#### **Jesus is the Son of God** Tune: London Bridge

Jesus is the Son of God, Son of God, Son of God. Jesus is the Son of God. Thank you God for Jesus!

> An angel brought Mary happy news, Happy news, happy news. An angel brought Mary happy news, The Bible tells me so.

> Shepherds left their flocks of sheep. Flocks of sheep, flocks of sheep. Shepherds left their flocks of sheep To find the baby Jesus.

Wise men came to worship Jesus, Worship Jesus, worship Jesus. Wise men came to worship Jesus, And brought gifts to Him. **The B-I-B-L-E** The B-I-B-L-E, yes that's the book for me. I stand alone on the Word of God, The B-I-B-L-E.

Chorus Oh the Bible will never fail, never fail, never fail. The Bible will never fail – no, no, no!

The B-I-B-L-E, yes that's the book for me. I read and pray, trust and obey, The B-I-B-L-E. (Chorus)

Hand out one Bible to each child. Say to students. Last time we will learned that the Bible is VERY special. Do you know why? Because it is God's! God made the Bible for us and the Bible has all of God's Words in it for us to obey. Isn't that wonderful? God made the Bible for each and every one of us! God loves us very much and wanted each one of us to have a Bible to read, to use and to study His wonderful words. Today we are going to continue to learn from the Bible about the birth of Jesus!

Let's all say "Thank you God for Jesus!" Have students say it together. Good job!

Who can raise their hand quietly and tell me what they remember about Jesus being born? \_\_\_\_\_\_(insert child's name) is sitting quietly and has raised his/her hand – what do you remember about Jesus' birth? Let student respond. Help if needed with the following prompts: Remember we talked about Mary and Joseph who heard from an angel that Mary was going to have a son – the Son of God and that they were to name him Jesus? Remember that Jesus was born in an unusual place? Where was he born? Where was his bed? Who came to see him after angels told them about his birth? Were the shepherds happy to see Jesus? Today we will see that more visitors came to see Jesus because they knew how special he was and they brought him very special gifts as well!

#### 2) Optional: Follow the Star to Jesus Activity

**10 minutes** 

**\*Before class:** Cut out one star per student.

Gather popsicle sticks, gold or yellow scrap paper or tissue paper pieces, glue, tape and if needed scissors.

During class: Say: Many years ago people used the stars to guide them. When Jesus was born, some wise men saw a special star. (Show students one of the stars). That star led them to the house where little Jesus was living. They took Jesus gifts to show they loved Him because they knew He was the Son of God!

To help us today learn about the wise men and little Jesus we are going to make stars for each of us. I am going to hand out one star to each of you. We are going to take scrap pieces of yellow or gold paper and glue them on your stars to make them bright and shiny. Help students glue pieces onto stars. Next we are going to put a stick on the back of the star with tape so that each of you can hold your star. When I read the account of the wise men, you can hold your star up every time you hear the word "star"! Help students finish craft and encourage them to clean up before moving on to the story of the wise men.

Thank those students who choose to help and praise them for helping to encourage other students to want to help as well. Sing the following while you clean up.

Clean Up Song Clean up, clean up Everybody everywhere! Clean up, clean up Everybody do your share! Repeat **Wise Men Came** Tune: London Bridge

Wise men came to worship Jesus, Worship Jesus, worship Jesus. Wise men came to worship Jesus, And brought gifts to Him.

3) Wise Men Bring Gifts Bible Account

5-10 minutes

Let's all sit quietly and listen while I read from the Bible about the wise men who came and saw little Jesus. Remember to hold your stars and when you hear the word "star" hold up your stars as well!

**The Bible says in Matthew 2:1-2 and 9-11 that when baby Jesus was born a special star** (hold up stars) **appeared in the sky.** 

After Jesus was born in Bethlehem wise men from the east came to Jerusalem and asked, "Where is the one who has been born king of the Jews? We saw his star (hold up stars) when it rose and have come to worship him."

The wise men saw the new star (hold up stars) and knew what the new star (hold up stars) meant – that a special baby was born! The wise men were very excited. They followed the star (hold up stars) to find Jesus the special child. The wise men gathered some very special gifts for the very special baby. And, they began to follow the star (hold up stars). The wise men traveled a long, long way. They kept watching the new star (hold up stars) and finally they found the special child – Jesus!

The wise men followed the star (hold up stars) they had seen when it rose and the star (hold up stars), went ahead of them until it stopped over the place where the child was. When they saw the star (hold up stars), they were overjoyed. 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. After they gave little Jesus their gifts, they left.

Just think, those wise men traveled all that way just to see little Jesus and tell Him how special they knew He was and to give Him gifts to show that they loved Him!

I am going to ask you some questions now, listen carefully and see if you can raise your hand and answer them:

How did the wise men know where Jesus was? They followed the star (hold up stars) Did they take anything to Jesus? Yes, they brought gifts.

**What did they do when they found Jesus?** They bowed down and worshipped Jesus and gave Him their gifts.

**How do we worship Jesus today?** We sing to Him, we pray to Him and we give at church to help those in need.

#### These are some of the ways we worship Jesus every Sunday at church services! Does that make God and Jesus happy? Yes it does!

Good job everyone. Thank you for sitting quietly and listening carefully.

4) Optional Activity: Finding Jesus Game (Using one of the Follow the Stars) 5-10 minutes

\*Make sure you have a Bible somewhere in the room or a picture of little Jesus sitting somewhere visible.

Have students line up in a row and tell them that you are going to play a finding Jesus game. Whatever you do, they need to follow you while you all go and look for baby Jesus. Hold the star up and remind them that just like the wise men followed the new star to Jesus, the students too, should follow the star you are holding as you go from place to place. Just like we need to remember to follow God, the students should follow you!

Ideas: As you walk around the room looking for baby Jesus (or you can take them on a special walk if you have enough help to go outside or in the hall) hop on one foot, stomp your feet, march in place, flap your arms, touch your head, rub your stomach, shake your leg, shake your other leg, do jumping jacks, say a prayer, etc., as you search for little Jesus. Walk them back to the place where the Bible/Little Jesus is located and say:

There we found little Jesus – His life is told in the Bible! We can learn about Jesus in God's Word the Bible! Just like the wise men followed the star – we followed the star to find little Jesus too! Good job everyone. Have students sit back down for the next activity.

## 5) Wise Men Activity Sheet

**Before Class:** Cut out one set of gift stickers per student and print one activity sheet per student. Each student will need one of each sticker folded back so that you can see each side of the sticker when it is taped onto the spots marked on the sheet. When students flip the sticker it will show the wise men holding the gift, and then Mary receiving the gift as it is flipped towards her hand!

10-15 minutes



**During Class:** Ask students to color the picture and talk about what they see in the picture. (Wise men bringing gifts to little Jesus)

Hand out crayons and help them if needed.

Next, hand out the stickers and ask students to watch as you tape each sticker in the correct spot so that when the sticker is folded back and taped they students can flip the image back and forth showing the gift going from the wise men's hands to Mary's hand.

While they color remind them that: today we learned about the most special gift – the birth of Jesus Christ – God's Son. We are happy that Jesus was born and came to the world. We are happy that God sent Him. Good news – Jesus is born! When the wise men saw Jesus' special star, they knew to follow the star so they could go and worship Jesus and bring Him special gifts. We need to always remember that Jesus is the most special gift in the world and every day we need to remember to thank God for Jesus! Let's do that now – let's all say "Thank you God for Jesus!" (Have students repeat)

#### 6) Action Rhyme and Songs

Let's do some action rhymes about the Bible!

#### Action Rhyme – Here is the Bible

Here is the Bible (hold hands out with palms together like a book) Let's open it wide (hold hands like an open book) God speaks to us (point upward) On the pages inside (hold hands like an open book)

#### Action Play - The Bible Says

The Bible says, "Pray" I will obey. (Fold hands and bow head) The Bible says, "Listen" I will obey. (Cup hand to ear) The Bible says, "Give" I will obey. (Pretend to drop money in basket) The Bible says, "Go to church" I will obey. (Walk fingers along arm or step feet up and down) The Bible says, "Sing" I will obey.

#### **Baby Jesus Action Rhyme**

A stable, (Make house with hands) A manger, (Make box with hands) A baby, (Cradle a "baby") With animals all around. (Arms stretched out) The baby is sleeping. (Fold hands against cheek) Let's tiptoe, (walk or use fingers to tip toe) And not make even a sound. (Sh-h-h!)

#### Jesus Grows Up Action Rhyme

Jesus was a Little Baby (Hold arms as if rocking a baby) Just like me. (Point to self) First he was so very small. (Squat on floor) Then he grew to be so tall. (Stand on tiptoes) Very small, oh so tall (Squat then stand) Just like me. (Point to self)

#### 7) Wise Men Bring Gifts Sheet with Stickers

**Before Class:** Cut out three "gift" stickers for each student. Gather glue sticks and crayons.

**During Class:** Hand out one sheet to each student and let them scribble color them. As they color talk about the importance of worship and how: **the wise men worshipped Jesus when they brought Him gifts. We worship Jesus today by being loving and caring to Jesus, God, and those around us. That means showing love and being kind to our parents, grandparents, sisters, brothers, neighbours, friends, pets and everyone we meet. It also means we obey and listen to our teachers, parents, and those who take care of us.** 

#### **10 minutes**



#### **5** minutes

After they color the sheets show the students how to glue a gift into each of the wise men's hands. For older students, let them trace the letters below that say we should give gifts of love, peace and forgiveness!

Before cleaning up and putting things away remind students that: "The Bible says that Jesus is God's Son. Mary and Joseph obeyed God by having Jesus and raising him according to God's will. The shepherds obeyed when they left their sheep to go see Jesus and told others about Him. The wise men obeyed God by worshiping Jesus and bringing gifts to Him. We need to obey God too and we know how by following the Bible - God's Word! God sent His Son Jesus - what a special gift! Thank you God for Jesus!"

#### 8) Optional: Play Dough Play Time

Hand out play dough to each student. Ask them to make a bed for little Jesus and then make baby Jesus to go into the bed. Talk about the importance of Jesus being born and how special and happy that should make us all. It is always wonderful when a baby is born – how much more special when that baby is God's Son Jesus! If time, help the students make a "gift" for little Jesus by taking the play dough and making it in the shape of a small box or gift.

When done, ask students to help clean up. If any student doesn't want to destroy their "creation" have them take a pretend picture with a pretend camera so they have a copy of the creation they made in their mind to help them feel better about putting the play dough away.

### 9) Optional: Snack - Star Shaped Fruit, Cheese, or Crackers

Before class cut or find fruit, cheese, or crackers in the shape of stars.

"You've all done a great job this morning learning about the birth of Jesus from the Bible. To help us remember, we are going to have a snack in the shape of a star." Hand out a snack to each child and glass of water to each child. Ask: What does this star remind you about our story today? Let students respond. Help them if needed to relate the star to the fact that the wise men followed the star in order to find where little Jesus was.

Let's think about how wonderful God is for giving us the Bible while we enjoy our snacks! Let's also think about how wonderful God is for sending His Son Jesus to the earth." Talk about how we obey the Bible – by going to church services on Sunday, listening to our moms and dads, praying, giving, singing, listening, and reading the Bible. Talk about who we learned about today. After snack have kids clean up. Then move on to the remaining activities.

#### 10) Sing

Have children sing songs with you, you can sing from the Song Sheet provided.

#### 11) Close in prayer

Tell students that we are going to pray, to pray we need to put down everything and fold our hands and bow our heads like this (show students). This way we can hear and listen to the prayer and

10-15 minutes

#### 5-10 minutes

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# when we sit quietly and focus on God – it makes God happy! We learn this in God's Word the Bible and we need to obey God.

First: Ask if there are prayer requests that kids want to share. Make a list. Then give the list to the assistant or read yourself.

Second: Remind students to fold hands and bow heads then pray: **Thank You God that You created the** world and gave us the Bible. Thank you God that we can know what You want us to do by reading Your special Words – the Bible. Help us to remember to make You and Jesus happy by coming to worship Him every Sunday. Thank you God for sending Your Son Jesus. Thank you for the evangelists and teachers that share the good news of Jesus' and his life. Thank You God for everyone here today and for those that couldn't be. In Jesus' name, Amen.

#### 12) Remind students

To take home their sheets/crafts. Thank them for coming and ask them to help clean up before they leave.

#### 13) Greet Parents at door

Ensure all students go to parents or if some students remain have teacher assistant help you take them to their parents.

Thank you for serving Christ in this way!