

Lesson Three: The Story of Christmas

Objective: Announce the Good News of the Birth of Our Savior, Lesson Three

Target Group: Grades 4-8

Time Required: 40 minutes

Materials Required: Nativity set, Student Bibles, worksheet



Lesson Three

Background for educators: Gospel of Luke, (Luke 2:1-12)

Lesson Topic: The Wise Men

Goals:

- a. Remove modern commercialization from the Nativity story
- b. Understand more about the Wise Men who paid homage to the Christ Child

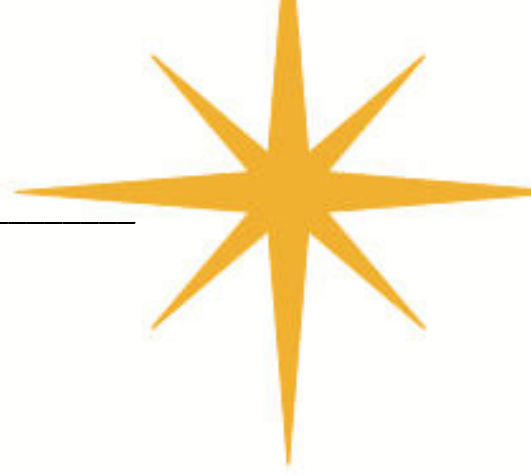
Lesson:

- a. Ask what they know about the Wise Men. Where did they come from? What did they bring for baby Jesus? How did they travel to Bethlehem?
- b. Read the Nativity story in Luke 2:1-12 aloud
- c. Explain the gifts the Wise Men brought for Jesus and why they are important. Gold, frankincense, and myrrh may seem like strange gifts to give a baby. These gifts, however, were very meaningful and very important to the wise men.
 - a. Tradition says that gold represented kingship. Jesus is the King of Kings, so gold was a great gift for the wise men to give Him.
 - b. Frankincense is resin that comes from the sap of a tree. It is used as incense, which means that it is burned because of the pleasant scent it releases. Frankincense looks like small white rocks and was very valuable in the time of Jesus. It also has a symbolic meaning, representing Jesus' holiness, divinity, or priesthood.
 - c. Myrrh is an expensive spice that was used as incense to prepare the dead for burial. Myrrh was very expensive, but it also represents the sacrifice that Jesus would make on the cross to pay for the sins of the world.

Activity: Wise Men Worksheet

Name: _____

Date: _____



The Nativity Story – The Wise Men

1. What three gifts did the Wise Men bring Jesus?

2. If you could give Jesus three gifts, what would they be and why?

1. _____

2. _____

3. _____

a. In the space below, draw the gifts you would bring Jesus.