



Jesus: A King on Earth

♥ Bible Love Lesson ♥

Thinking about being loved by your family is wonderful. *Hearing* someone say, “I love you very much,” is so special. *Seeing* something that reminds you of your grandma’s love—like a special gift she gave you is great too. Getting a hug is *feeling* love wrapped around you. God’s love is powerful, and it is everywhere. It never goes away!

Bible Story: A Wonderful Star

from Matthew 2



Key Points

- ❖ There were wise men at the time Jesus was born who studied the stars.
- ❖ They knew a king had been born when they saw a brilliant new star in the sky.
- ❖ The wise men wanted to find the new king and worship Him.
- ❖ They took special gifts to give to the new king.

In a country far away from Bethlehem where Jesus was born, some very wise men were **studying** the stars. One night they saw the most **brilliant** star they had ever seen. They knew it was special and that they had never seen it before.

The wise men who studied the stars had learned many things from books. They knew that the special new star meant that a king had been born.

They wanted to go and find the new king with the special star, so they could worship Him. They hurried and packed their bags. They could tell it would be a long trip and would take many months to get there. They thought the star would take them to the city of Jerusalem for the new king would certainly be born in a wonderful and beautiful **palace**! Surely, this new king who had His own star would be the ruler of the greatest nation in the world—and armies would obey his every command!

In their bags they took some very special gifts to give to the new king. “We must give him the very best gifts we have,” thought the wise men, “for this king is sent from God.” The wise men started on their long journey.

Word and Phrase Meanings

- studying:** to observe (watch) and search to learn about something
- brilliant:** shining very bright
- palace:** a large, grand home for a king, queen, or other ruler

Guided Prayer Thought

Dear God, You have shown Your love in the greatest way possible—by sending Your Son to give us Your love. Help us to know Your Word so we can show You that we love You and to tell others about Your love. In Jesus name, Amen.

Questions: Thinking & Remembering

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| 1. What did the wise men study?
<i>They studied the stars.</i> | 6. About how long did they have to travel?
<i>many months</i> |
| 2. What did the wise men see that they had never seen before?
<i>a special bright star</i> | 7. Where did they think the new king would be born?
<i>in Jerusalem</i> |
| 3. What did the special star mean?
<i>It meant a king had been born.</i> | 8. Why did they think the king would be born there?
<i>because kings were usually born in palaces</i> |
| 4. What did the wise men want to do?
<i>follow the star to find the new king</i> | 9. What did they take to give to the new king?
<i>their very best gifts</i> |
| 5. What would they do when they found the king?
<i>worship Him</i> | 10. Whom did they think had sent this king?
<i>God</i> |



Bible Words to Remember

When they saw the star, they rejoiced with exceedingly great joy. (Matthew 2:10)

Choosing God's Way



Giving Gifts to Worship

The wise men were very excited when they saw the star. They knew that a king was born sent by God. We should be even more excited than them because we know all about the special King Jesus that was born. They were so excited that they wanted to travel a very long way to get the chance to worship Him and bring Him the best gifts they had. We don't have to travel far to worship Jesus. All we have to do is open up our mouth and sing praises to Him. Like the wise men we should give Jesus our very best gifts too. We should give Him the best gift of all which is our hearts.

What were the wise men willing to do because they were so excited?

What can we do to worship Jesus?

♥ Bible Love Lesson ♥

Aren't gifts wonderful? God gave us the most wonderful gift of all when He sent Jesus to earth. It was a gift of love to us and the world. We can love because He first loved us!

Bible Story: The Wise Men Bring Gifts to Jesus

from Matthew 2



Key Points

- ❖ The wise men went to the city of Jerusalem to find Jesus.
- ❖ The king in Jerusalem did not like the news that a new king was born.
- ❖ The star was in the sky over the town of Bethlehem. The wise men continued their journey.
- ❖ The wise men worshiped Jesus and gave Him their finest gifts.

The wise men followed the star and traveled for many months. When they arrived in Jerusalem, they asked where the new king was. When King Herod the king in Jerusalem heard about this, he was very upset. "A new king?" He did not want a new king to take his place! He thought he was the greatest king!

So King Herod pretended that he wanted to worship the new king too. He really wanted to find Him to keep Him from being the new king. He called men to the palace who studied the **Holy Scriptures** and asked them where the king, who was the **Christ**, would be born. They said in the city of Bethlehem.

The wise men continued their journey. They followed the star until they came to Bethlehem. When they came to the house where Jesus was, they were very tired, but they were too excited to think about that. They were going to see a very special king!

They went into the house, and they saw Mary and Joseph—and Jesus! The wise men said, "This is the King we have waited to see!" They fell down and worshiped Him. Then they opened their treasures and presented their finest gifts: gold, **frankincense**, and **myrrh**.

Word and Phrase Meanings

- Holy Scriptures:** God's words written for people to read and study
- Christ:** God's chosen One
- frankincense and myrrh:** precious substances used in incense and perfume

Guided Prayer Thought

Dear God, We know that You do not just speak to people whom we think are great and important. You give us messages of love too, but sometimes we don't even listen. Help us to listen and hear Your messages to us. In Jesus name, Amen.

Questions: Thinking & Remembering

- How did the wise men know which direction to travel?
They followed the star.
- Was King Herod happy about a new king being born?
No, he was upset.
- Why was king Herod so worried?
He didn't want a new king to take his place.
- Did Herod really want to worship Jesus?
no
- How did he know that the new king, the Christ, was born in Bethlehem?
from the men who studied the Holy Scriptures
- When they continued their journey what did the wise men follow?
the star
- What did they do when they saw Jesus?
They worshiped Him.
- Name the three gifts that the wise men brought to Jesus.
gold, frankincense, and myrrh



Bible Words to Remember

When they saw the star, they rejoiced with exceedingly great joy. (Matthew 2:10)

Choosing God's Way



Giving Gifts to Show Love

Sometimes when we think of gifts we think mostly of what we will get, not what we can give. The wise men took gifts to honor Jesus. Did they expect Jesus or Mary and Joseph to give them gifts too? No. What they received on the day they finally arrived at the place where Jesus was, was not wrapped up in a pretty box. The gift they received was being able to see God's love come to earth. God gave the best He could give—His very own Son. They brought Him the very best gifts they had to give.

*Should you give your best when you give to someone you love?
Think about how you can give your very best every day to Jesus.*

♥ Bible Love Lesson ♥

Because of sin, there is hate in the world. God is the opposite of hate. God is love. Wherever God is, there is love. There are many things that people do that hurt us. But we do not have to hate. God will help us love others if we ask Him.

Bible Story: A Cruel King

from Matthew 2



Key Points

- ❖ The wise men had followed the star to the Savior that God sent.
- ❖ They remembered that Herod wanted them to tell him where Jesus was.
- ❖ Herod was planning to do something very wicked.
- ❖ God told the wise men to go back to their country a different way.

The wise men had found the king they were looking for! The many months of traveling over the desert following the star had been worth it. Nothing would ever be the same for them again. They had seen and worshiped the Savior that God sent to save the world from sin. They **rejoiced** with **exceedingly** great joy!

Then the wise men remembered their visit to King Herod in Jerusalem. They remembered the questions Herod asked them about the exact time they had seen the new star. They remembered that Herod sent them to Bethlehem saying, "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."

As they were thinking about going back to Jerusalem to report to the king, God told them in a dream that Herod was going to do evil. God told them not return to Herod but to go back to their country another way. They obeyed God.

When King Herod found out about the wise men returning home without telling him about Jesus, he was very **angry**! He ordered his soldiers to go to Bethlehem and kill all the little boys that were up to two years old. Herod thought that killing them would take care of his problem of a new king! But God was taking care of Jesus. He would not be hurt by the **cruel** king.

Word and Phrase Meanings

- rejoiced:** celebrated with great happiness
- exceedingly:** extraordinary; extremely
- angry:** very mad
- cruel:** wanting to cause others to suffer

Guided Prayer Thought

Dear God, We know that we have two choices just like Herod had. We can choose to follow You, or we can choose to do evil. We want to choose to obey and follow You. Help us say "no" to evil. In Jesus name, Amen.

Questions: Thinking & Remembering

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| <p>1. Whom did the wise men find by following the star?
the Savior</p> <p>2. Why did God send a Savior to earth?
to save the world from sin</p> <p>3. What words describe how the wise men felt about finding Jesus?
They rejoiced with great joy.</p> <p>4. What did King Herod want the wise men to do when they found Jesus?
come and tell him where Jesus was</p> | <p>5. Was Herod going to worship Jesus?
No, he was planning to kill Him.</p> <p>6. How did the wise men know that they should not go back to report to Herod?
God told them in a dream.</p> <p>7. What did Herod order his soldiers to do that was evil?
He said to kill all the little boys up to two years old.</p> <p>8. Was Jesus killed or hurt by the king's order?
No, God was taking care of Him.</p> |
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Bible Words to Remember

When they saw the star, they rejoiced with exceedingly great joy. (Matthew 2:10)

Choosing God's Way



Choices

King Herod was very angry. He didn't want someone to take his place as king. He had hate in his heart toward Jesus, and it caused him to sin and do terrible things to the baby boys in Bethlehem. When we have hate in our heart it always turns to sin too. Pretend you have two pieces of candy and your mom asks you to give one piece away. You have two choices: You can obey and have the joy of giving, or you can disobey and that is sin and always causes bad feelings in our hearts. Then those bad feelings can make you think bad things and sin more. We always have a choice whether we will sin or not. When we think we want to sin we can always call on Jesus to help us not to sin. King Herod could have had a very different life if he would have chosen to love Jesus.

What caused King Herod to sin?

What can cause us to sin?

What can we do if we do not want to sin?

♥ Bible Love Lesson ♥

It is wonderful to feel safe—just to know that your mom and dad are in the next room and will take care of you. It's nice to know that your mom will pick you up from your friend's house and give you a hug. You feel so cared for! God will care for you even when you cannot see your parents. He will always love you.

Bible Story: Escape into Egypt

from Matthew 2



Key Points

- ❖ **Mary and Joseph did not know that King Herod was looking for Jesus.**
- ❖ **The angel told Joseph in a dream to leave Bethlehem to keep Jesus safe.**
- ❖ **Joseph took care of Mary and Jesus. He took them to Egypt where the angel told them to go.**
- ❖ **The family stayed in Egypt until the mean King Herod died.**

The wise men had worshiped Jesus and left to go to their own country. Mary and Joseph did not know that King Herod was planning to kill Jesus. But very soon they knew!

An angel of the Lord **appeared** to Joseph in a dream. The angel said, "Get up and take Jesus and Mary and **escape** to the country of Egypt. Stay there until I come to tell you that it will be safe to leave. Herod is coming to find Jesus and destroy Him."

Joseph didn't wait until morning to do what the angel said! He quickly got out of bed and woke up Mary. He told her they must hurry and leave Bethlehem. Gently, Mary held Jesus tightly in her arms. Nothing must happen to harm Jesus! Joseph prepared the donkey and quietly the family escaped in the night into Egypt. Joseph took good care of Jesus and Mary. He knew that God would help him protect God's precious and only Son.

The family stayed in Egypt until the wicked King Herod was dead. The prophet Hosea had written these words from God: "Out of Egypt I called My Son." This was written many years before Jesus had been taken to Egypt, and the words came true!

Word and Phrase Meanings

appeared: came into view; was seen

escape: to get away from danger

Guided Prayer Thought

Dear God, Help me listen and follow Your directions. Your Word tells me how we can live for You. Choosing to love You is the most important thing I will ever do. Keep me on the path You have for me. In Jesus name, Amen.

Questions: Thinking & Remembering

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| <p>1. Did Mary and Joseph know that King Herod was trying to find Jesus?
no</p> <p>2. Who appeared to Joseph in a dream?
an angel of the Lord</p> <p>3. What did the angel tell Joseph to do?
“Get up and to take Jesus and Mary and escape.”</p> <p>4. Which country did the angel tell Joseph to go to?
Egypt</p> <p>5. How long did the angel tell them to stay in Egypt?
until the angel came again to say it was safe to leave</p> | <p>6. Why did the angel tell them to leave Bethlehem?
Herod wanted to destroy Jesus.</p> <p>7. What did Joseph do?
He took Jesus and Mary to Egypt.</p> <p>8. Who helped Joseph take care of Jesus?
God</p> <p>9. When did Jesus’ family leave Egypt?
after Herod was dead</p> <p>10. Did the prophet Hosea know that Jesus would live in Egypt long before He was born?
yes</p> |
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Bible Words to Remember

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Choosing God’s Way



What You Think

Knowing who Jesus is; loving Jesus; following Jesus; obeying God’s Word—these things will help us live in the right way. What is another choice we can make? Listening to ourselves; loving just ourselves; thinking only of what we want; thinking that what others do that we don’t like is not fair; hating someone for having something we want. Our thoughts become our actions. Be careful what you think about, whom you listen to, and the choices you make.

How can you live in the right way—God’s way?

What is another choice you can make?

What do we need to be careful about?

♥ Bible Love Lesson ♥

You will hear many stories about kings. There are good kings and bad kings. But there is only one perfect king. Jesus is the perfect One. He loves you and wants you to follow Him and live in His heavenly kingdom forever!

Bible Story: God’s Plan Keeps Making History
 from Matthew 2



Key Points

- ❖ King Herod and his kingdom on earth came to an end.
- ❖ Buildings can be strong—but not strong enough to last forever.
- ❖ The most important thing to remember is that God cares about who we are inside—that we love Him and let Him change our hearts to be good.
- ❖ You can be part of God’s plan and live in His kingdom in heaven by believing in His Son Jesus.

King Herod did not live forever. He thought that he was the greatest king and wanted his **kingdom** to last forever. He built large palaces and had large armies to **defend** the **fortresses** and strong walls around his houses and beautiful gardens. But this king could not win against the plan of God. The walls of the wonderful palaces **crumbled**, and what was left was only part of a memory of his greatness.

People today **design** and build great buildings. They think that they are strong enough to last a very long time too—just like King Herod. But many things happen to change what people build. God helps people do pretty amazing things, but in the end it is not what we do but who we are inside that really matters. Nothing we can do or make will change God’s love for us.

We are part of God’s plan. Each person is more important to God than any building ever built on earth. But God looks at the inside of us and asks us to be made clean from sin. The only way we can be clean on the inside is to ask Jesus to forgive our sin and make Him our King. Then we can belong to God’s kingdom.

Word and Phrase Meanings

- kingdom:** a nation or land which is ruled by a king
- defend:** protect; guard
- fortresses:** walls and buildings that are extra strong
- crumbled:** broken up in small pieces
- design:** to draw plans for something

Guided Prayer Thought

Dear God, You are very strong. Nothing compares to You. We want Jesus to be our King and change us. We know You will help us to do the right things. In Jesus name, Amen.

Questions: Thinking & Remembering

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| <p>1. Did King Herod live forever?
no</p> <p>2. What did Herod build?
large palaces, strong walls around his houses, beautiful gardens</p> <p>3. Whom did he have to protect what he had?
large armies</p> <p>4. What happened to the walls and palaces Herod built?
They all crumbled.</p> <p>5. What do people try to do?
design and build buildings that will last a long time</p> | <p>6. Think of things that happen that change what people build.
earthquakes, tornados, tearing down, etc.</p> <p>7. What is really important?
not what we do but who we are inside</p> <p>8. Are we part of God's plan?
yes</p> <p>9. How can we be part of God's kingdom?
ask Jesus to forgive our sin and make Him our King</p> |
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Bible Words to Remember

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(Matthew 2:10)



Activity Time

Draw a picture to help you remember all you learned this week about what happened when Jesus was a baby.