

HomeWord¹ For Parents

The promised Messiah had come! The baby Jesus would fulfill many prophecies. And He would one day be a mighty, everlasting King.

How was this King received? Matthew tells us of two different reactions. The first reaction was from the wise men from the East (Matthew 2:1). These wise men were probably from Babylon and ancient Persia. Hundreds of years earlier, magi in this area may have had opportunities to learn of the promised Messiah—the King of the Jews—from the prophet Daniel who had been taken as a captive from Judah to Babylon and served in high positions there for many years (Daniel 1:19–20, 6:3).

These wise men came to Herod the Great who was ruling over Judea saying, “Where is He who has been born King of the Jews?” (Matthew 2:2). King Herod sent the wise men to Bethlehem to find the child. When the wise men saw the young child with Mary, His mother, they fell down and worshipped Him. They presented Him with treasures of gold, frankincense, and myrrh (Matthew 2:9–11).

King Herod was troubled by the news of this King, and he sought to kill Him (Matthew 2:13). But the almighty, sovereign God was watching over Jesus and His family. The wise men were to report back to King Herod about Jesus. But God warned them to go home by another route and not return to Herod (Matthew 2:12). Joseph, too, was warned in a dream to take the child and His mother and flee to Egypt (Matthew 2:13).

The wise men loved Jesus; King Herod hated Him. These two extreme reactions to Jesus are still evident today. The Bible tells us that the one who is not with Christ is against Him (Luke 11:23). There is no middle ground. He is the way, the truth, and the life (John 14:6). Those who repent, believe, trust, and receive Him will freely and willingly bow to Him in praise and worship. They will have eternal life. And those who don’t believe in Him, but are threatened by Him because they don’t want another King in their life, will be condemned (John 3:18).

Go to the Online Resource Page for more information.

OutWord² For Family Discussion

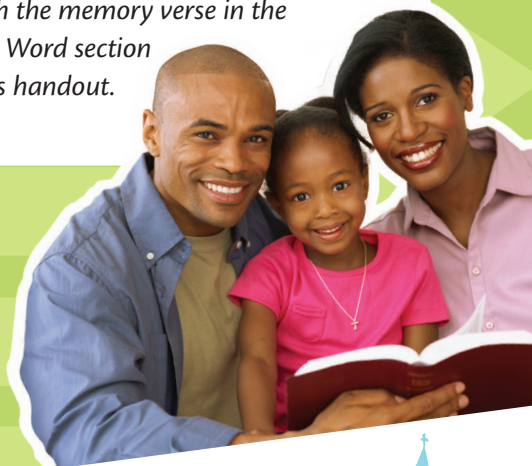
Suppose your friend told you he believes in Jesus and all, just not everything about Him, and not everything He said. **What could you say?**

I agree that some of the things about Jesus are hard to understand. But with Jesus there is no middle ground. Jesus said that if you aren’t for Him then you’re against Him. We can’t be “partly” for Him. If we are “partly” for Him, then the Bible says we are against Him! That is a dangerous place to be! Because He alone can forgive our sins. He alone offers us eternal life. He is the ONLY way to get to the Father in heaven! The thing is, Jesus IS God. And you CAN trust everything about Him. Keep reading your Bible. If you have questions, ask someone. I can help . . . or your parents, or your pastor. It is really important to believe ALL about Jesus, and to trust that it is all true! God will open your heart to His truth if you really want to know it.

inWord³ For Family Study

“You are my hiding place and my shield; I hope in Your word” (Psalm 119:114). Where does confidence in God’s protection and hope in His Word come from? Teach your children where real hope lies—read and memorize Scripture together.

Begin with the memory verse in the Learn the Word section inside this handout.



Seeking the King

KEY THEME

- God is faithful to His promises.

KEY PASSAGES

- Matthew 2:1–13, 2:16

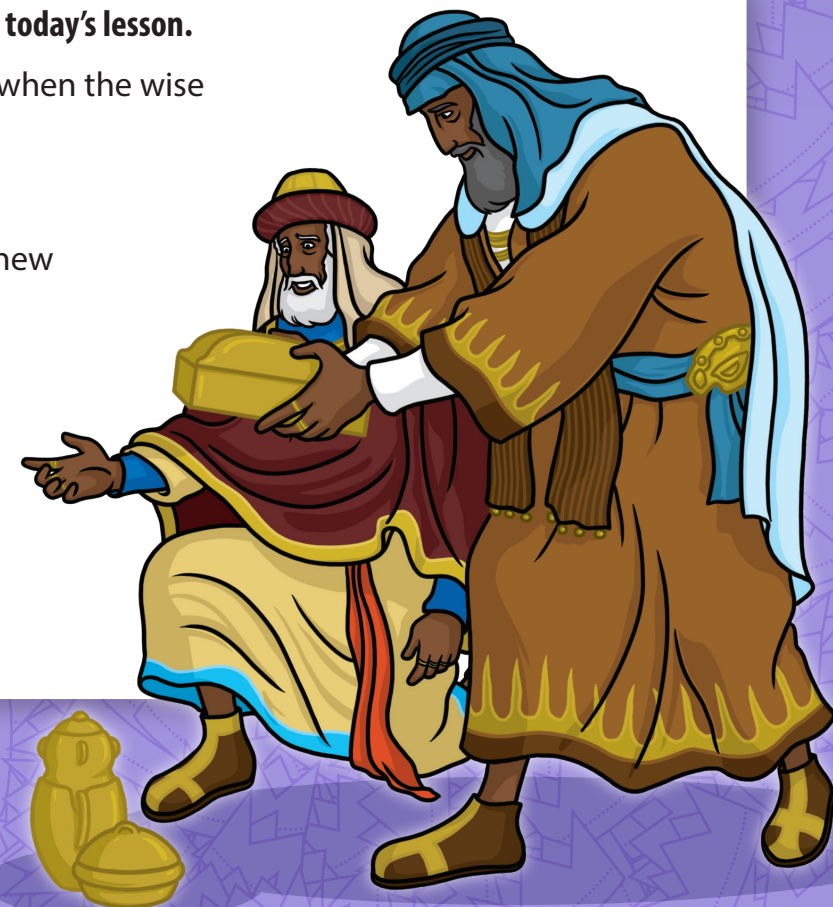


What You HEARD⁴ in the Word

- The wise men traveled far to find the King of the Jews. When they found the child, they worshipped Him and gave Him treasures fit for a King.
- When Herod heard about the child—the King—His reaction was one of jealousy and hatred. He wanted to kill Jesus.

Ask your child these questions from today’s lesson.

- 1 Who was the King in Jerusalem when the wise men came?
- 2 How did the wise men find the new King, Jesus?
- 3 What did the wise men do first when they saw the child, Jesus?



1) King Herod 2) God sent a star to guide them. 3) They bowed down and worshipped Him.

Read the Word with Mom & Dad

Monday (Matthew 2:2)

What did the wise men see that made them want to travel all the way to Jerusalem?

Tuesday (Matthew 2:4)

What did King Herod ask the priests and scribes?

Wednesday (Matthew 2:11)

What did the wise men do when they saw the young child and Mary?

Thursday (Matthew 2:14)

Where did God tell Joseph to take Mary and the child to escape Herod?

Friday (Matthew 2:19–20)

When did Joseph return from Egypt back to Israel?

Saturday (Philippians 2:8)

How did Jesus show His obedience to His Father? Can you recite this verse to your family?

Learn the Word!

And being found in appearance as a man, He humbled Himself and became obedient to the point of death, even the death of the cross.
Philippians 2:8

LIVE the Word with Johnny and His Dad



The Wise Men Found the King

Fill in the blanks using words from today's lesson.

Word Bank: **Star, King, Men, God**

- The wise **e** came from the east to find Jesus.
- i** Herod hated Jesus and wanted to destroy Him.
- d** protected Jesus.
- God sent a **t** to lead the wise men.

God Is in Control

Draw the outline of the letters covered by the stars and clouds. Then fill in the blanks to finish the sentence below. Color the picture.



ANSWER: Sovereign



SNEAK PEEK
Did Jesus always obey Mary and Joseph when He was little? Come next week to find out!

ANSWERS: 1) Men, 2) King, 3) God, 4) Star.