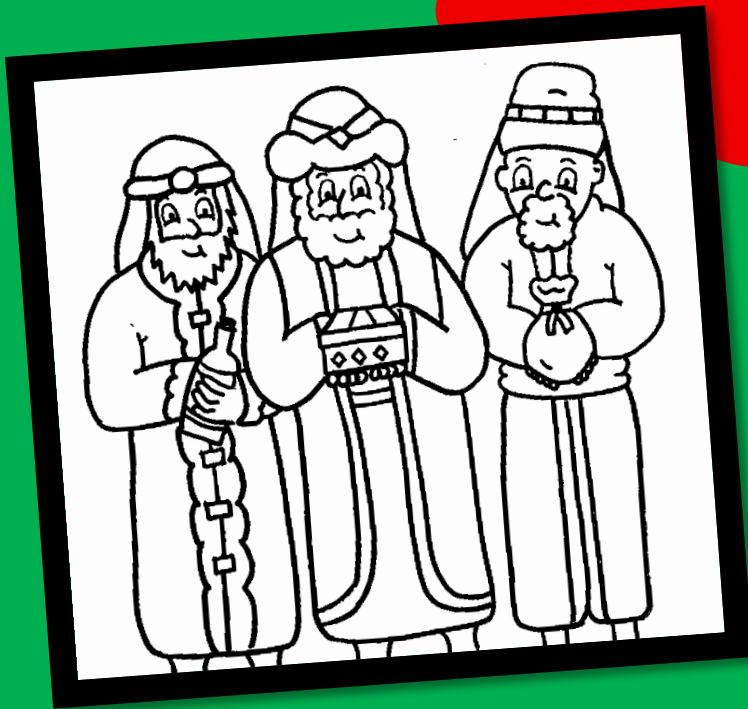


Christmas Stories with Jolly

By Jill Crowder

Wisemen Visit Jesus



Preschool
Edition

Wisemen Visit Jesus

A year or two after Jesus was born some very special men came to Bethlehem. No one knew these men. No one knew where they came from or where they went when they left. They were wisemen, and they had come to Bethlehem for a very special purpose.

When the wisemen arrived in Bethlehem, they started asking people if they knew where they could find the Messiah. They had come to worship him and had very special presents to give Him. No one knew how to help them, but someone told King Herod they were in town. King Herod did not like the idea of a new Messiah. He wanted to be the king, and he didn't want anyone trying to steal his power. King Herod called for all of the priest and prophets to come meet with him. He wanted to know everything they knew about the new Messiah. The priest and prophets had never met Jesus, but they had been studying about the Messiah for years. They told the king the Messiah was to be born in Bethlehem, and He would take over all of Israel. This news made the king panic, so he came up with an evil plan.

King Herod sent for the wisemen to come see him, They told him why they had come to Bethlehem. They told him they had seen the special star in the sky from a faraway land and knew they would find the Messiah under it. They had been following the star for a long time. King Herod told the wisemen to keep looking for the Messiah, and as soon as they found Him, they needed to come back and tell him where He was. King Herod told the

wisemen he wanted to go and worship the Messiah too. King Herod did not really want to worship Jesus. King Herod wanted to hurt Jesus so he could stay the king forever, but the wisemen didn't know about that part of his evil plan.

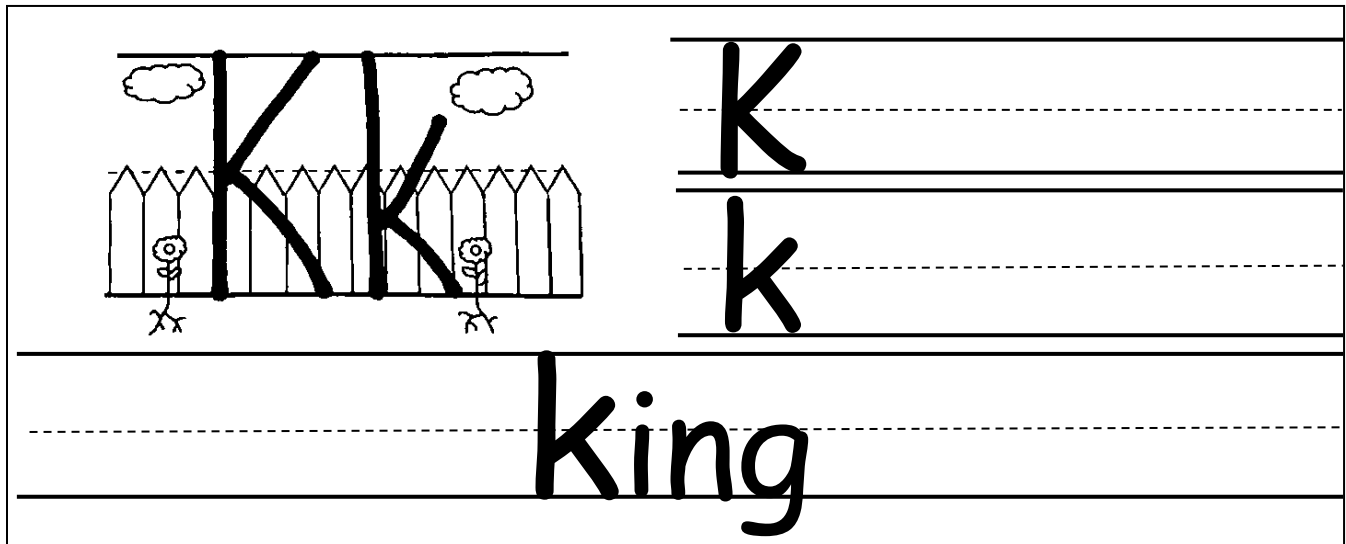
The wisemen left King Herod and kept searching until they finally found young Jesus and His parents. They fell down in front of Jesus and worshipped him. They knew He was the Son of God who had come to save the world. They gave Him the special gifts they had brought from their faraway lands. They gave Him gold, frankincense, and myrrh. These were very special gifts that you would give a king. They knew just how special this little boy was even when no one else around them seemed to know.

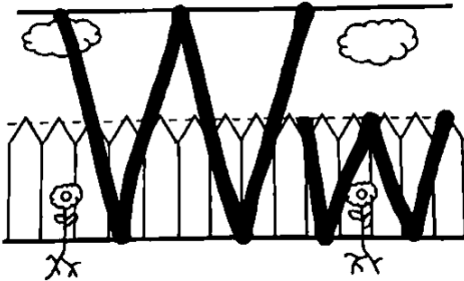
After their visit with Jesus, it was time for them to leave. Before they left, God appeared to them in a dream and told them not to go back and tell Herod where they had found the Messiah. They listened to God and went home a different way than the way they had come to Bethlehem. Then, God sent an angel with a message for Joseph. The angel told Joseph to pack and move to Egypt and take Mary and Jesus with him. Joseph also listened to the message God had sent, and Jesus and his parents left Bethlehem.

Not too long after the wisemen had left Bethlehem, King Herod realized they weren't coming back to tell him where he could find the Messiah. This made King Herod very mad. How could he kill Jesus if he didn't know where to find Jesus. King Herod decided to do a very bad thing. King Herod made a rule that all babies who were 2 years old or younger must die. He thought this way he would be able to kill the Messiah even if

he didn't know which child He was. A lot of babies died because of this rule, but not Jesus because he had moved with his family to Egypt just as the angel told to them to do.

Years later, Herod died. God sent His angel back to Joseph and told him it was safe for them to return to Israel. Jesus and His parents moved back to Nazareth where He grew up to do exactly what God said He would do.



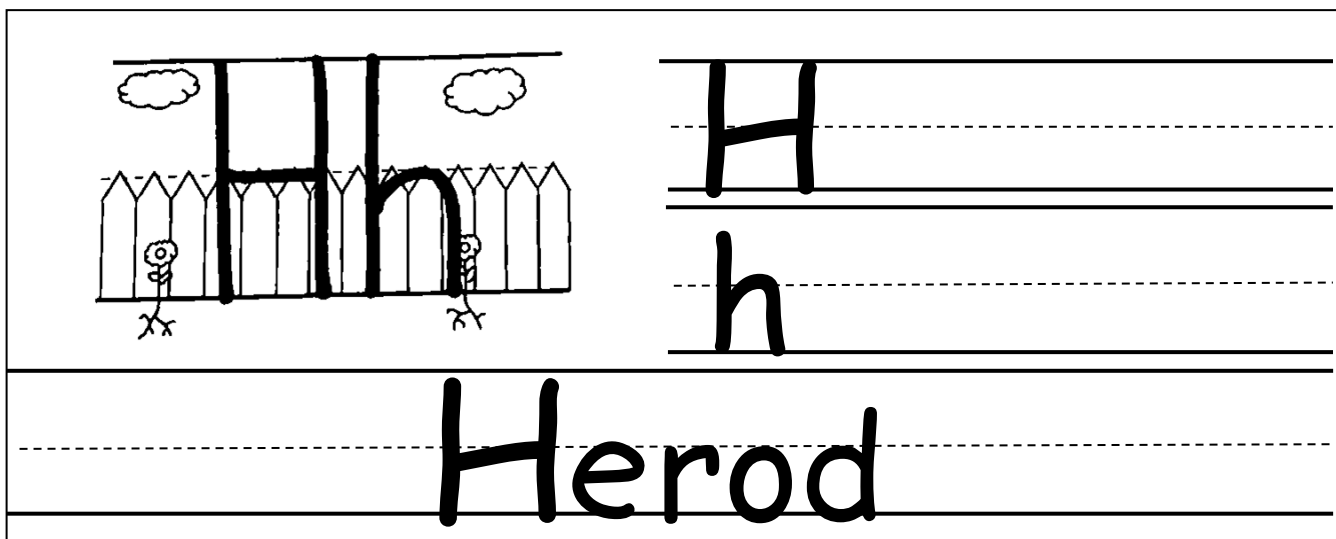


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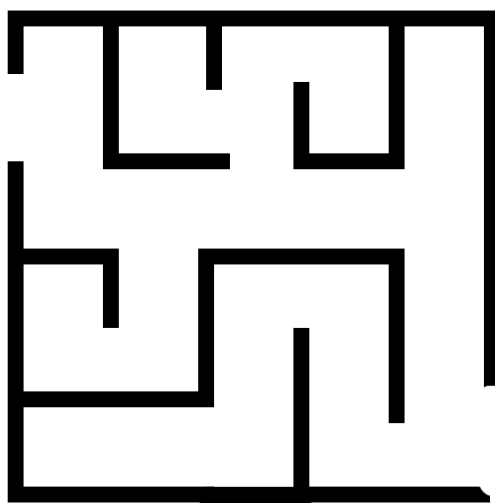
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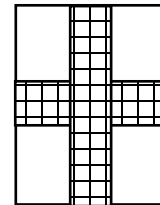
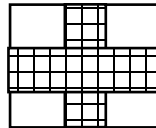
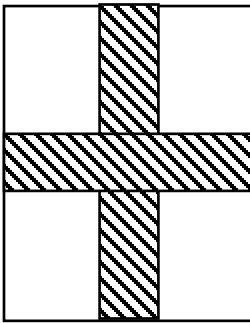
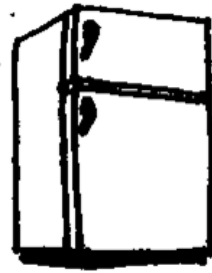
1. Who traveled from faraway lands to worship Jesus?
2. How did they know where to find Him?
3. Why did the news of the new Messiah upset King Herod?
4. What did King Herod tell the wisemen to do?
5. What did the wisemen give to Jesus when they found Him?
6. Why didn't the wisemen go back and tell King Herod where Jesus was?
7. Why did Joseph take Mary and Jesus and move to Egypt?
8. What did King Herod do when he found out the wisemen weren't coming back?
9. How did Joseph know when to move back to Israel?



The wisemen followed the star until they found Jesus and His parents. Look at the maze below. See if you can help the wisemen find their way to Jesus.



The wisemen brought gold, frankincense, and myrrh to Jesus as gifts to worship him. These things were gifts fit for a king. Look at the pictures below. Match the gift to the giftbox of the same shape and size.



When they saw the star, they rejoiced
with exceedingly great joy.

Matthew 2:10



prophecy

- a message sent by
God to tell people what is
going to happen

The wisemen brought special gifts to Jesus.
In the space below draw a giftbox.

- I knew the Messiah
was in Bethlehem.
- I wanted to find the
Messiah.
- I said I wanted to
worship the
Messiah.
- I actually wanted to
kill the Messiah.

Who am I?

— — — — —

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



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