

Christmas Stories with Jolly

by Jill Crowder

Wisemen
Visit
Jesus



For grades 3-5

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 to try 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.

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 young 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?

Look it Up! (All answers are KJV specific.)

Matthew 2:1 Now when Jesus was born in Bethlehem of Judaea in the days of Herod the king, behold, there came wise men from the east to _____.

Matthew 2:4 And when he had gathered all the chief priests and _____ of the people together....

Matthew 2:6 And thou Bethlehem, in the land of Juda, art not the least among the princes of Juda: for out of the shall come a _____ that shall rule my people Israel.

Matthew 2:8 And he sent them to Bethlehem, and said, Go and search _____ for the young child;

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

Matthew 2:11 ...and when they had opened their _____, they presented him gifts; gold, frankincense and myrrh.

Matthew 2:12 ...they _____ into their own country another way.

Matthew 2:13 ...Arise, and take the young child and his mother, and flee into _____

Matthew 2:16 Then Herod, when he saw that he was _____ of the wise men, was exceeding wroth

Matthew 2:21 And he arose, and took the young child and his mother, and came into the land of _____

Q	M	O	C	K	E	D	W	G	E	R	T	Y
D	O	I	I	U	R	E	J	O	I	C	E	D
E	P	L	S	K	J	H	G	V	F	D	G	S
P	J	E	R	U	S	A	L	E	M	Z	Y	A
A	W	Q	A	M	C	N	B	R	V	C	P	X
R	E	R	E	T	R	Y	U	N	I	O	T	P
T	A	S	L	D	I	F	G	O	H	J	K	L
E	Z	X	C	V	B	B	N	R	M	Q	W	E
D	I	L	I	G	E	N	T	L	Y	Y	T	R
U	T	R	E	A	S	U	R	E	S	I	O	P

In My World

The wisemen didn't know exactly what to expect when they traveled to Bethlehem. They just followed the star that was leading them to the Messiah. The wisemen didn't know King Herod's plan when they left Bethlehem another way than the way they had entered, but they obeyed God. Joseph didn't know why he needed to take his family and move to Egypt, but he obeyed the angel of the Lord. Sometimes in life, we aren't going to know all the details. Sometimes God will be leading us to something wonderful and sometimes He will be guiding us away from things that are dangerous for us. Our job isn't to understand why we must do everything God leads us to do. Our job is to simply obey, follow where He is leading, and trust that He knows what is best.

Reflection Questions

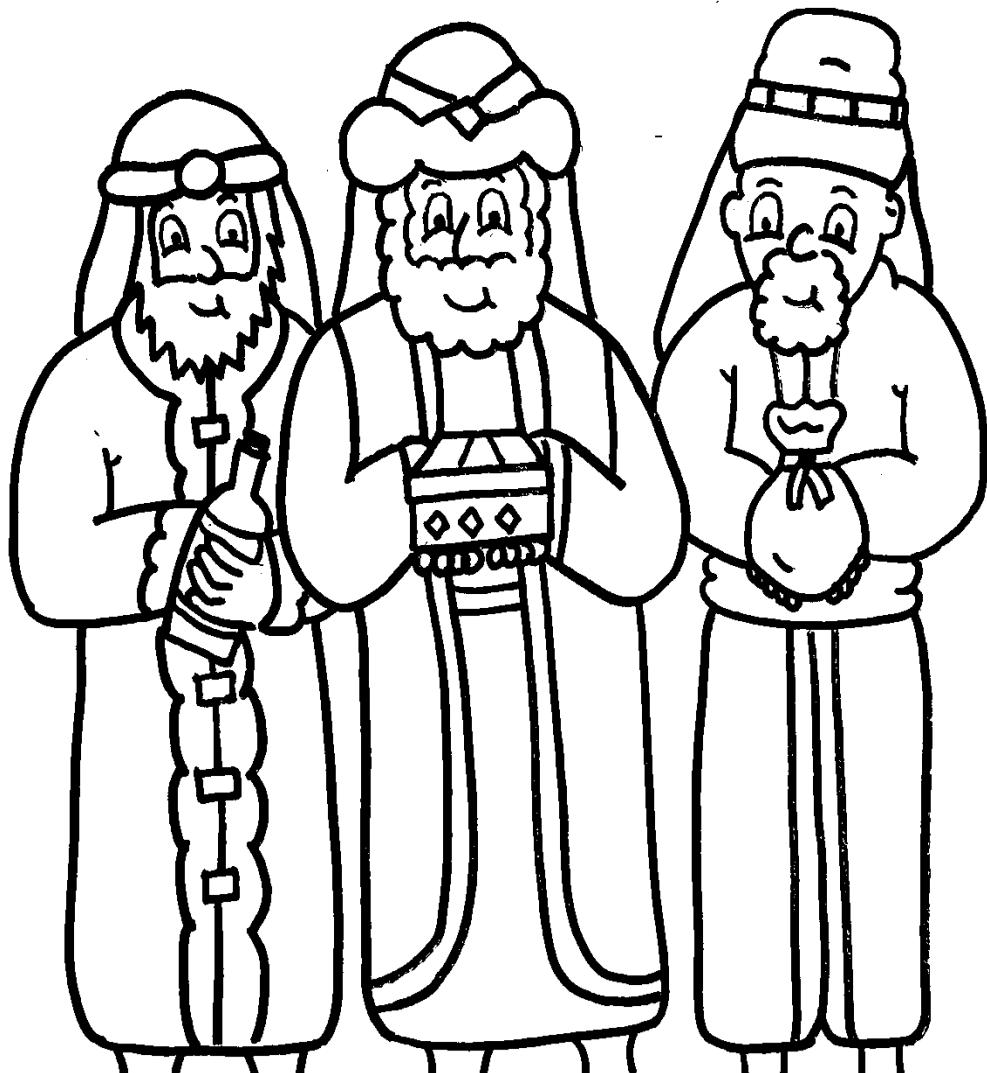
1. Have your parents every told you to do something and you could tell by their tone that you didn't need to ask questions?
2. Have you ever looked back on your life to see that God had protected you from trouble you didn't even know was around you?

My Prayer for You

My prayer for you is that you seek God with as much diligence as the wisemen. I pray that you worship Him, honor Him, and praise Him even if those around you don't understand why you are doing what you are doing. I pray that you follow where He is leading you, even when it doesn't make sense why you need to do something. But most of all, I pray that you accept Jesus Christ as your Savior.

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

Matthew 2:10



Page 4

1. the wisemen
2. they followed the star
3. he wanted to stay the king forever
4. find the baby and then come back and tell him when he was
5. Gold, frankincense, and myrrh
6. God appeared to them in a dream and told them to go back to their homes another way.
7. An angel told Joseph to take Mary and Jesus and move to Egypt.
8. He ordered that all baby boys under the age of two be killed.
9. God sent his angel to tell Joseph that King Herod had died.

Page 5

Matthew 2:1 Jerusalem

Matthew 2:4 scribes

Matthew 2:6 Governor

Matthew 2:8 diligently

Matthew 2:10 rejoiced

Matthew 2:11 treasures

Matthew 2:12 departed

Matthew 2:13 Egypt

Matthew 2:16 mocked

Matthew 2:21 Israel