

The Wise Men and Flight to Egypt

Matthew 2:1-23



The Story

What gift would you have given Baby Jesus if you could have visited the newborn King? Today we will hear about some wise men who came from very far away to praise the Savior, Jesus, and to bring Him gifts. Those costly gifts would also help Joseph, Mary and Jesus travel and live in far away Egypt. Why did they go to Egypt? Listen and you will learn.

After Jesus had been born, wise men from the East came to Jerusalem and said, "Where is the King of the Jews who was born? We have seen His star in the East and have come to worship Him."

Herod, the king of Judea, did not like hearing this. Would this King take over his job? Herod called together people who knew the Bible and asked them to find where the Christ was to be born.

The Bible, in the book of Micah, told them that Jesus was to be born in Bethlehem.

Herod secretly found out when the wise men had seen the star and he told them to go to Bethlehem where they would find the Child. Herod lied to the wise men and said, "Go and find the Child and come back and tell me where He is so that I can go and worship Him also."

The wise men left, following the star they had seen in the East.

The star stopped over the place where Jesus was living. The wise men were very happy to see the star and follow it!

They came to the house where Jesus was now living and they fell down before the Savior and worshiped Him. They also gave Him expensive gifts of gold, frankincense, and myrrh.

God sent a dream to warn the wise men not to go back and tell King Herod where Jesus was living. The wise men went home a different way.

An angel also came to Joseph in a dream and said, "Get up, take the young Child and Mary and go to Egypt and stay there until you are told to return. King Herod is going to try to find Jesus to kill Him." Joseph, Mary and Jesus left that night to go to Egypt.

When King Herod realized the wise men were not coming back to tell him where Jesus was living, he was very angry. Herod ordered that all baby boys who were two years old and younger should be killed. It was good that Mary and Joseph took baby Jesus to Egypt.

After King Herod died, an angel told Joseph it was safe to go back home. The family moved to Nazareth, just as it is told in the Bible.

Activity One - Use the words in the box to complete the sentences.

gifts Egypt wise men Jesus star safe

1. King Herod heard about J_____ being born.
2. He told the W_____ m_____ to find the baby Jesus.
3. The wise men followed God's special st_____ to Bethlehem.
4. When they found Jesus they worshiped Him and gave Him g_____.
5. King Herod wanted to hurt Jesus but God kept Him S_____.
6. Joseph took Mary and Jesus to live in E_____ until God told them they could move home.

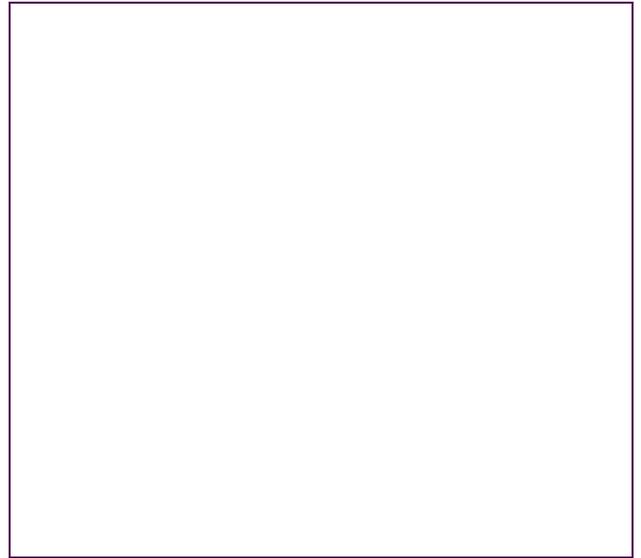
Passage

"Put your trust in the Lord." Psalm 4:5

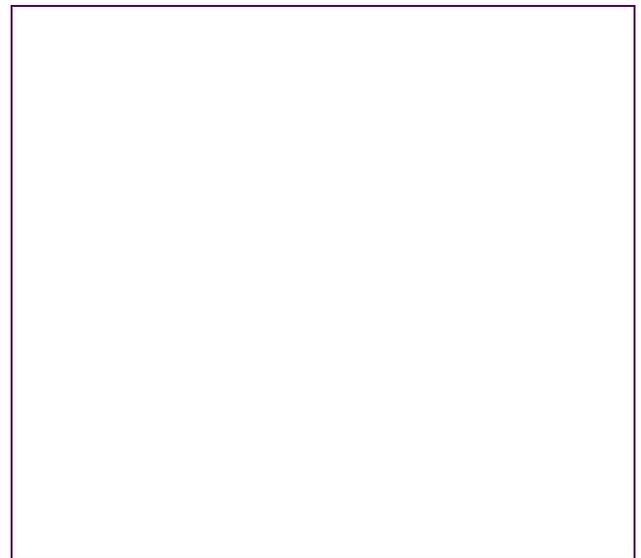
Activity Two The wise men brought precious gifts for Jesus. What are some gifts you can give Jesus? Draw pictures of those gifts in the boxes. Have your teacher help you write the name of the picture below its box.



Gift: _____



Gift: _____



Gift: _____

Prayer

Dear Jesus,
Please help me to be a bright light for You so other people can learn about how much You love them. Amen.