

The Wise Men

Resources: Memory stick with PowerPoint and files on, laptop (check cable), projector (check 2 cables), extension lead, 3 scripts, spare t-shirts, 3 robes

Passage: Matthew 2:1-13

Theme: Christians believe that Jesus is God's special King.

Person 1: Intro, Wise Man C, Questions

Person 2: Wise Man B, Prayer

Person 3: Wise Man A, Talk

Intro:

Hello [name of School], we are so pleased to be back with you again! We're the Christ Church Schools' Team, I am _____, and this is _____ [Intro team]...

If you were king or queen for a day, and you could do whatever you wanted, what would you do? Have a think and tell me... [Take answers]

[Share personal example.]

In our story from the Bible today we meet some men who find Jesus – God's special king - but what sort of king would he be?...

Drama

[Wise men walk on from right, C first then B then A. C stops abruptly as they see children and others pile up]

C: Wow! Who are all these people?

B: Dunno.

C: Oh! We should tell them our really exciting news.

A: Go on. Go on...

B: Well, someone really special has been born, its soooooo exciting.

C: Nooooo, start at the beginning of the story.

B: Oh yes, sorry, well just a few days ago we were FOLLOWING a star. [Walk left, then right looking up & pointing]

But it wasn't just any old star. It was different!

It was in the East.

And it was moving!

It reminded us of something we'd once heard about a star.

Yes. A star would show the world that God's special king had been born!!

So we followed the star. [Walk left, then right looking up & pointing]

A: Whose idea was it to follow it?

C: It was your idea... [pointing at B]

B: So, we followed it. [Walk left, then right, looking up & pointing]

And before we knew it, we were in Jerusalem.

We thought the king must be in the palace.

So we asked, "Where's the palace?"

And we ended up in front of this king called Herod.

C: And we said, "Where's the new king?"

"Where's God's special king?"

"We've seen his star and we've come to worship him." [Pause]

I don't think he was best pleased.

So, we smiled and bowed down to him lots. [All bow down about 5 times]

A: He then asked his advisors where God's special king would be born.
They looked in their special books, [Other two pretend to look at a book]
and said,

All: Bethlehem.

B: God's special king, who would be like a shepherd to God's people
would be born in...

All: Bethlehem.

A: Herod looked quite mean and said, "Why don't you find God's 'special'
king...
and when you've found him...
tell me where he is, so I can come and bow down to him too."

B: So, we followed the star. [Walk left, then right looking up & pointing]

And it stopped. [C stops and all bump into each other again]

Right above a room full of animals.

We thought it must have made a mistake,

God's special king wouldn't be born with the animals!

So we waited for it to move on again [Look up for a while, then look
down..]

[B sighs as a sign to all say...]

ALL: But it didn't!

A: So we went inside.

We pushed past the cows. [Part cows with hands and step forward]

We squeezed past the sheep and the shepherds. [Mime squeezing past]

And you [looking at B] got stuck behind that donkey.

And there

[All peer over as if looking into the manger]

In a cow's feeding trough, was

A little [pause]

ALL: Baby

C: With his mother Mary.

Was this really the right baby?

God's special king?

But it seemed right...

ALL: So we gave him our presents...

A: Gold

B: Frankincense

C: and Myrrh

A: And we said,

ALL: "You're amazing!"

B: Then we set off home... [B sets off]

A: No, before we set off home, we had a dream.

C: All of us.

A: I dreamt we shouldn't go back to Herod.

B: Me too.

C: And me. [Pause] So...

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ALL: ...we didn't go back to Herod.

B: And that's how we came to be here - in the middle of nowhere.

C: Keeping away from King Herod.

A: But wanting to tell everyone that we've seen

All: God's special king.

Talk

Hundreds of years before Jesus was born, the Bible says that God had told a man called Micah where God's special king would be born... In Bethlehem. It wasn't like Winchester! It was a small, quiet village. Micah said that God's special king wouldn't be mean and scary like Herod. He wouldn't be selfish, like some of us might be if we were king or queen for the day [bring in some examples from introduction]. Instead, he would be like a shepherd, looking after his sheep... He would lead people to good places; he would take care of them and keep them safe. Christians believe that Jesus is God's special King.

And so, in our Bible story we saw the Wise Men set off for Bethlehem to find God's special King, following the star until it stops suddenly over a very ordinary building. They go inside. And there lying in a cow's feeding trough was a baby. The wise men are so excited; they give him their gifts of gold, frankincense, and myrrh. They want to tell everyone about Jesus – God's special king.

Christians believe that Jesus is God's special King. They believe he still leads people to good places; he takes care of people and keeps them safe. So maybe this Christmas, when you are opening your presents or tucking into your Christmas dinner, maybe you can remember this story from the Bible of the very www.christchurchschoolsteam.com

first Christmas and remember that Christians believe that Jesus is God's special king.

Song: Now that Christmas is here.

Quiz

We've got a little quiz for you now, so put your hand up if you think you know the answer:

1. In our story from the Bible, what did the wise men see in the sky? [A Star]
2. What did the wise men give to Jesus? [Gifts – gold, frankincense and myrrh]
3. What do Christians believe we can learn from this story? [Christians believe that Jesus is God's special King]

Prayer:

To finish our assembly, I am going to say a short prayer for us all. Before I do that, let's spend a moment thinking about what this assembly means for us. As we pause, why don't you think of a special gift you have received and why it was special to you. You may want to close your eyes, so you are not distracted or focus on the candle on the screen. If you want to agree with my prayer, you can say 'amen' at the end with me....

[flickering candle on PowerPoint – wait for a minute]

Dear God, thank you so much for school. Thank you that we have learnt from the Bible - that Christians believe that Jesus is your special King. I pray that you would bless every child and every member of staff in this school. Amen.

Close:

Thank you for having us today. We'll see you again soon. Merry Christmas!

