

The Rock, Sunday 10th January 2021

The Visit of the Magi

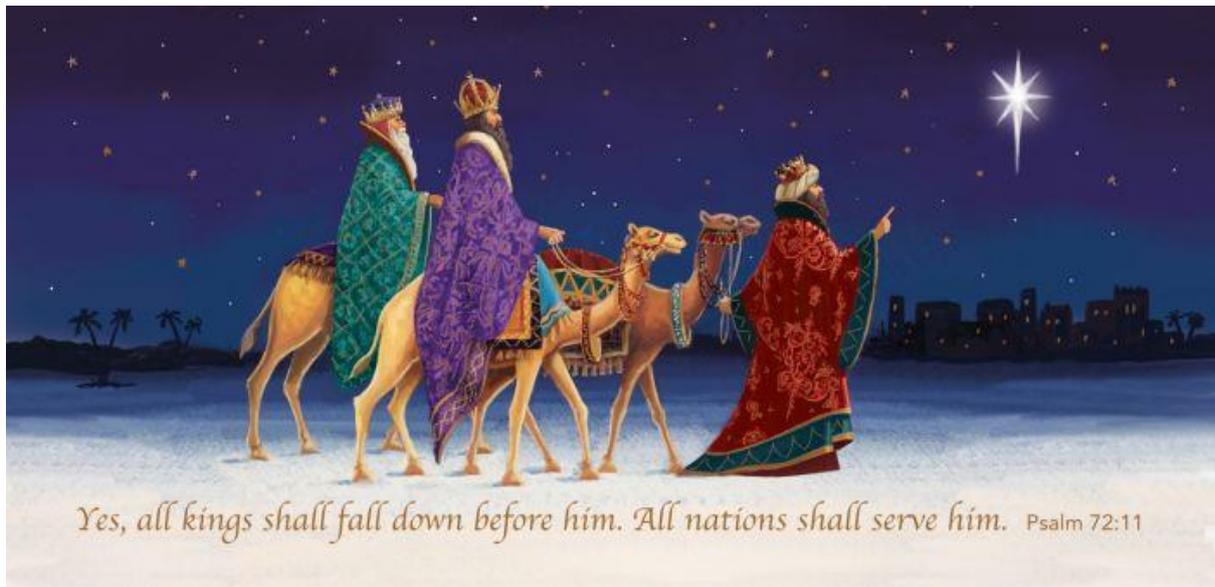
To start

Equipment

As many Christmas cards as you can, cut into half and sorted into 2 piles one half of each card in each pile.

Scatter one pile of the cards upside down. Children need to find pairs. If they find a card which features the wise men, ask the children to display these separately. The game continues until all the pairs are complete. When all pairs have been matched, you can take a look at the selection of scenes or images displayed, and briefly draw attention to those including the wise men. Explain that this is what we will be looking at more during this session.

The Point: This is a fun Christmas game.



Teaching time

Equipment

Bringing gifts sheet, attached, text of Matthew

Ask the children what gifts they gave this Christmas. Encourage them to talk about all the planning which goes into buying gifts:

- How do you decide what to give someone?
- How do you feel when you give someone a present?

The Wise Men brought gifts which were very expensive and were quite strange ones to give to a baby or small child. There were no rattles, toys, teddies or baby clothes. Instead they were all gifts which had something to say about Jesus.

Recap the story, from Matthew 2:1-12, using the text attached or a children's story Bible.

Explain that the presents all represent something about Jesus: Gold to show that He is a King, Frankincense because He is God and Myrrh because He was born to grow into the man who died on the cross at Easter.

Discuss:

- How do you think the wise men chose their presents?
- What do you think Mary and Joseph thought about these gifts?
- What present would you give to Jesus?

You can continue the discussion as the children complete the attached activity sheet, *Bringing our gifts*, remembering the gifts the wise men brought to Jesus and thinking about what we can give Him ourselves, even now.

The Point: To encourage the children to think about the significance of the Wise men's gifts, and how we can give to Jesus too.



Download

[SP905_5-6_Bringing_Gifts.pdf](#)

[SP905_5-6_Bringing_Gifts_2.pdf](#)

Response and craft

Equipment



Crown shapes, shiny paper and sequins, scissors, glue, pens, powerpoint slide, attached.

Make a paper crown. Display the memory verse and help the children to write the memory verse on it;

They asked, "Where is the baby who was born to be the king of the Jews? We saw his star in the east. We came to worship him." Matthew 2:2.

Read the memory verse together and to unpack what it means; the wise men recognised who Jesus was, and searched for him so that they could give Him the praise and worship He deserved.



Provide a selection of sparkly, shiny papers and sequins and invite the children to decorate their crown, before fixing them around their heads. As they decorate their crowns, you can talk more about what it means for us to recognise who Jesus is, the King that God promised. When the crowns are ready, you can invite the children to parade them round, reciting the memory verse together.

The Point: To help the children to remember scripture.

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[SP905_5s-6s_Where_Is_The_King.pptx](#)

THE ROCK

(Material taken from Energize by Urban Saints - <https://www.energize.uk.net/>)