

Christmas is celebrating Jesus, God's greatest gift.



DAY 1

Read Matthew 2:1-2

Do you have a nativity set at your home? If so, does it include three wise men?

Did you know that the wise men didn't visit Jesus as a newborn? Most likely, they arrived one or two years after his birth. Check out Matthew 2:11. Where does it say they found Jesus?

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The wise men traveled a long way, following the star that led them to Jesus. And when they arrived, they bowed down and worshipped and gave gifts fit for a king.

Now when we see the wise men in nativity scenes, it can remind us that Jesus is worth celebrating not JUST at Christmas, but all year long.

Jesus gave His life so that you could have life with Him forever. We don't have to wait for Christmas because Jesus is worth celebrating all year long.

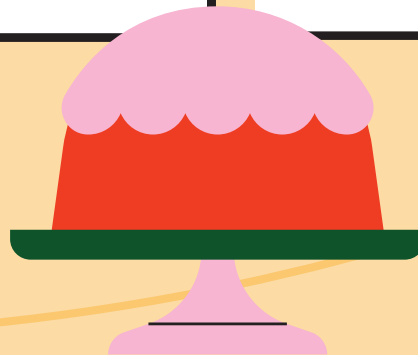
DAY 2

Read Matthew 2:3-6

Can you name a villain from your favorite movie? Write down or draw the villains that stick out to you the most in the space below:

In Jesus' time, King Herod was most definitely the villain. When he heard about Jesus' birth, Herod was angry—NO way he was going to let a baby stand in his way as ruler. Herod tried to find this baby king but God protected Jesus and His earthly family.

Because God protected Jesus and His family from the villain, we are able to celebrate the good news of Jesus' birth today! God is the ultimate hero who sent Jesus to rescue us. Jesus made a way for us to have a relationship with God now and forever. That means His birth is worth celebrating all year long!



DAY 3

Read Matthew 2:9-10

The North Star is the brightest star in a group of stars called the Little Dipper. Because the North Star stays in an almost constant position, sailors once used it to guide their ships. Think of it like the first GPS.

Thousands of years ago, a group of wise men used a special star in the sky to guide them too. These men followed that star to find a King! When they arrived, they worshipped Jesus and presented Him with royal gifts. Just imagine how excited they must have been to finally find God's one and only Son! They were filled with JOY!

We can find joy too—even when things don't look or feel super joyful—when we look for God! We can find God in creation, like a sky full of stars. We can read about God in the Bible, and we can talk to God in prayer.

Look up at the stars tonight and thank God for sending Jesus—a Savior worth celebrating all year long!

DAY 4

Read Matthew 2:11-12

Our nativity sets typically contain three wise men figurines, probably because the Bible tells us of the three gifts they brought to honor Jesus. But we don't really know how many there were. Maybe there were two. Maybe there were ten.

Either way, they bowed down and worshipped Jesus, and gave Him expensive gifts. After a long journey, they celebrated Jesus because they recognized that He was the Rescuer God had promised.

3D Wise Men

Grab some toilet paper or paper towel tubes, markers, colored paper, foil, and clear tape. Use the tubes as the base for creating a few wise men. You can draw in faces with a marker, add foil crowns, color in a robe, and fold colored paper into a small square for them to "hold" as their gifts. Read Matthew 2:1-12 as you act out the story of the wise men's journey to celebrate Jesus!

Celebrate Jesus
all year long.