

Epiphany Lesson Matthew 2:1-12

The Magi are an important part of those who sought to find the Christ child, Jesus.

Presently we have the technology to help us get to where we want to go. Before having GPS show us the way to get to our destinations, there were maps and before that, people used the constellations and stars to find their way.

The Magi from the East saw a bright star and decided to follow it. These wise men first stopped by where king Herod was. Herod requested the Magi find Jesus and then return to him and let him know where Jesus was so he could worship him.

So it was that the bright star led the Magi to where the Christ child was. Gold, frankincense and myrrh were the gifts the Magi brought to the child. These three gifts were predicted in the Old Testament as gifts that the Magi would bring him. Gold, a precious commodity which could have represented the knowledge that Jesus would be the King of all, myrrh is usually used as an ointment, but also as an embalming material...perhaps this gift represented the sacrifice Jesus would be making for us some day. Frankincense was used during worship and maybe was given because the Magi truly believed Christ was indeed God. These three gifts were cherished by Mary and Joseph, but also fulfilled an earlier prophesy by Isaiah.

It so happened after seeing the child, the Magi had a dream telling them to go back to their country a different way and not see Herod. Herod told the Magi that he wanted to worship the child too, but he really wanted to eliminate the child. The Magi did as the dream told them and headed home a different way. It so happened that Mary and Joseph were also warned to leave and go to live in Egypt to protect the child from Herod. So they packed up and left for Egypt.

As Christians of today, we need to be the star and shine the light that leads others to Christ. Also, we need to be like the Magi and let nothing keep us from seeking Christ.

Prayer

*Thank you, Heavenly Father,
for loving us so much you were willing
to suffer and die to give us everlasting life.*

Help us as we seek, follow, and share the Word with others.

*In Your Name we pray.
Amen*

Epiphany Lesson Craft

Materials:

Printed template
Black poster board or heavy cardstock
White pencil or crayon
Various colors of tissue paper
Clear Contact paper
Scissors
Glue
Twine

Directions:

Print out the star template or draw own

Trace the template onto black poster board or heavy card stock with white pencil or crayon then cut out

Cut a piece of contact paper a little larger than the star

Place the star down on the sticky part of the contact paper, traced lines facing up

Cut small squares from tissue paper

Cover the empty area with tissue paper, but don't go over the black border

Cut a second piece of contact paper a little larger than the star and cover the tissue paper

Press out any air bubbles

Cut the star out so there's no contact paper showing around the black border

Glue a piece of ribbon or twine to the back of the star for hanging



**Epiphany Lesson Craft
Template**

