

The Christmas Story

Huddle 3- *The Three Wise Men*



SETTING THE ATMOSPHERE

As children arrive, collect the “In” slips and see which grade they are in for their huddle teams. Remember to check all slips to make sure children are to be in Up & Out this hour.

Team Time

Each team leader (student leader) should spend time getting a conversation started within the team to find out more about each child. Spend time today discussing the following questions up front...

- How was your week this week?
- Did you do anything fun this weekend?
- How did you love God last week?

Huddle Teams

- 1st & 2nd grade girls
- 1st & 2nd grade boys
- 3rd & 4th grade girls
- 3rd & 4th grade boys

Opening Prayer

Leader prays for the group.

LESSON HUDDLE

Let’s all come over together and get started this morning. Good morning, Up & Out! Where we look up (pause for the group to respond) **TO GOD** and look out (Pause) **TO OTHERS**.

Scripture: Matthew 2:1-12

What story have we been learning about? That’s right, the Christmas story! The first week we learned that God chose Mary and Joseph to be the parents of His son Jesus. As a result they gave Jesus their love. The second week we learned about the shepherds and the angels and how they chose to worship God and Jesus.

Today is the last lesson in the story. Does anyone know what characters are left to learn about? (*let kids respond*). This week we are going to learn about the three wise men. Who knows what the wise men were? (*let kids tell you what they think*) The wise men were kings from the East. They heard about Jesus, the King of all Kings, and decided to go find him to worship Him. Like the shepherds we talked about last time, the wise men also followed a bright star in the sky to find Jesus. They traveled many, many miles to see King Jesus. When they found Mary, Joseph, and Jesus in Bethlehem they each gave Jesus a gift. One gave Jesus gold, one gave Jesus frankincense, and one

gave Jesus myrrh. Now to us, those gifts sound like funny gifts to give to Jesus. However, each of these gifts were very valuable and commonly given to kings a long time ago.

This act of giving by the three wise men was very generous. Do you know what generous means? Being generous means you give more to someone that you have to. They traveled far and wide to bring gifts to baby Jesus. They recognized that although they were kings, baby Jesus was the King of the world and worthy of their praise. Therefore, not only did the wise men give Jesus the gift of their worship just as the shepherds and angels did, but they also gave him their generosity through actual gifts. Jesus wants us to be generous just as the three wise men were. Jesus has blessed us with so much that we should want to be generous to Him and others.

We have learned all about the story of baby Jesus and how he has given us himself as the greatest gift of all. He was the perfect example of what it looks like to be generous. In response to Jesus coming to Earth to save the world we can be generous to God and to those around us. What are some ways we can be generous? *(let kids respond)* Those are great ideas! We can give money offerings to God, food to the homeless, and tell others about God so that they can receive the gift of Jesus as well.

Let's focus on entering into this New Year thinking about ways we can be generous to God and those around us. Let's pray, thanking God for his generosity and asking him to show us how we can be generous.

Huddle Up, Pray, & Break

ACTIVITY: Thank-You Cards

Materials:

- Card Stock
- Crayons and marker
- Ribbons, buttons, pom-poms, etc.
- Glue

Brainstorm with the group to think of ways that others have been generous to them. Have the children make a thank-you card for someone who has been generous to them. They may decorate the card and then write a note inside.

Examples are shown written below to spark their creativity.

Dear _____, Thank you so much for _____. It is very special to me because _____.

Dear _____, Thank you so much for _____. I love my _____. You are so nice!



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