

### LESSON 5 THE MAGI

#### LESSON AT A GLANCE

**WONDER TRUTH:** Jesus Is the King We Worship

**SCRIPTURE:** Matthew 2

**GOD'S BIG STORY:** Guided by a star, wise men from eastern lands come to Jerusalem seeking Jesus, the King we worship. A lying King Herod attempts to trick them but fails.

**WORD OF WONDER:** A child will be born to us. A son will be given to us. He will rule over us. And he will be called Wonderful Adviser and Mighty God. He will also be called Father Who Lives Forever and Prince Who Brings Peace. —Isaiah 9:6

#### CURIOSITY

#### BELIEF

#### FAITH

- Welcome Question: If you could pick anyone to be king or queen of our country, who would you pick—and why?
- Curiosity Questions
- Interactive Game: Star Track
- Declaring God's Wonder
- Prayer of Invitation
- God's Big Story: Hear It, Watch It, Experience It!
- Connecting the Wonder Truth
- In Awe of God's Wonder
- Word of Wonder: Isaiah 9:6
- Word of Wonder Activity
- Responding in Worship: Crowning the King
- Prayer Time
- Blessing Your Kids



[God With Us Elementary Spotify playlist](#)

### INVITATION

We invite you to pause, listen, and shift your gaze toward the Father ...

### LESSON AT A GLANCE

**WONDER TRUTH:** Jesus Is the King We Worship

**SCRIPTURE:** Matthew 2

**WORD OF WONDER:** Isaiah 9:6

We all worship something, whether we realize it or not. People must order their lives around something. Maybe it's the God revealed in Scripture, or maybe it's one of the many counterfeit gods vying for our attention. The god of comfort. The god of success. The god of wealth. Who do you worship? What do you give your allegiance to?

Read Matthew 2:1–12. In the story of the magi, the wise men are faced with a choice: to obey Herod or listen to God. God had led them to Jesus, who had come not only as the king of the Jews, but also as the everlasting King who would bring salvation to the ends of the earth. After these travelers from a foreign land found Jesus, they bowed down and worshiped Him. Then they listened to God and returned home without yielding to Herod's request. They made their choice.

Every day, we too have choices to make. The rightful King of all creation has been revealed to us, and every other kingdom will someday give way to His Kingdom. Jesus is the King we worship, but counterfeits desperately jostle for our attention. So, what do you give your attention to? Does it point you to Jesus or obscure your vision? Every day is an opportunity to follow Jesus with your whole heart. Come, let us worship the King.

—**Michael Rade**

Care & Support Ministry Assistant; Itinerant Preacher  
Contributor to Wonder Ink

**DID YOU KNOW?**

**FOUNDATION BUILDING BLOCKS**

**WHO?**

The magi, or wise men, were astrologers who interpreted the appearance of stars and other astronomical objects. These men played an important part in the court life of various Mesopotamian kingdoms, served as advisers to kings, and were believed by some in the early church to be royalty themselves.

**WHAT?**

After Jesus' birth, magi from the east came to worship Jesus and bring Him gifts. They followed a star that had risen in the sky. King Herod tried to trick the magi into telling him the location of Jesus. God warned them not to return to Herod.

**WHERE?**

The magi traveled from Mesopotamia, from what is most likely present-day Iraq. Depending on their route, they may have traversed up to 900 miles. It would have taken several months. They arrived in Jerusalem and then traveled to Bethlehem, which was about five miles south of Jerusalem.

**WHEN?**

Jesus was born before King Herod died in 4 BC. The magi arrived at least several months after Jesus was born. Herod was still alive at this point. Shortly after the magi's visit, Jesus' family had to relocate to Egypt until Herod's death.

**CONNECTING TO GOD'S BIG STORY**

The visit of the magi foreshadows the inclusion of Gentiles in God's kingdom and makes sense of Daniel's vision in which people of all nations worship the everlasting King. The kingdom of God is made up of persons from every tribe, language, people, and nation.

Large Group /Small Group

Spark curiosity, encourage exploration, and get kids thinking about the wonder of God.

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### As kids arrive...

Around 20 minutes before service begins, display series theme loop. Play high-energy music in the background.

LG Leader walks around the room on mic and greets kids by name as they enter the room. Welcome kids by name and greet them with enthusiasm. Be extra intentional about hearing and responding to what they say.

**SLIDE: SERIES THEME LOOP**

**VIDEO: COUNTDOWN** (2min OR 30sec) Start a countdown to begin game 10 minutes prior to service start)

### Welcome Question

**SUPPLIES:** paper, coloring utensils, whiteboard (optional), dry-erase marker (optional)

**SLIDE: WELCOME QUESTION**

Before kids arrive, display the Magi Welcome Question Slide or write the following question on a whiteboard: "If you could pick anyone to be king or queen of our country, who would you pick—and why?" Set out sheets of paper and coloring utensils.



### At your start time ...

You've welcomed individual kids as they've entered the room; now pause and give the whole group an enthusiastic smile to let kids know you're glad they're there. Then call on several volunteers to share their answers to the Welcome Question: **If you could pick anyone to be king or queen of our country, who would you pick—and why?**

**"Interesting choices, but here's some information for you: you already have a King! Today we'll meet some men who traveled a great distance to worship Him ... but first—let's get curious!"**

## Curiosity Questions

Pose the following “I’m curious” questions. Say “I’m curious ...” before each question and give kids a chance to think about and answer each one. After each question, consider having kids share their ideas with a neighbor before you call on one or two of them to share with the group.

### I’m curious ...

- How would you show respect to the king or queen you chose? What would you say or do?
- If Jesus was your king and was standing in front of you, what would you say or do to show you respect Him?

## Interactive Game: Star Track

**SUPPLIES:** scissors (prep only), cardstock (optional), timer (optional)

**RESOURCES:** [Star Sheet \(2/campus\)](#)

Ahead of time, print the Star Sheet on cardstock (if possible). Cut out the star.

### SLIDE: STAR TRACK

Have kids line up single file. Hand the star cut-out to the first kid in line and ask her to hold it high above her head. Explain that kids will stay in single-file formation as they follow the star wherever it goes. The first kid in line will begin moving around your space as you encourage the line to track the star and follow it wherever it goes! The kid in the lead can move by walking, skipping, jogging, and so on—with everyone behind them following suit. Call out “Star Switch!” every 30 to 45 seconds (use a timer, if available), and the first kid in line will hand the star to the next child before moving to the back of the line (all while the line keeps moving). Keep the game interesting by also calling out “obstacles” as the line moves:

- Hungry wolves are coming—move fast!
- Sandstorm—put a hand on the shoulder of the person in front of you, close your eyes, and don’t get lost!
- You lost your left sandal—hop on your right foot!
- River crossing—start wading!
- Hot sand—skip!
- You need to get through a cave—crawl!
- You’re nearly there—bring me the star!

### SLIDE: WONDER TRUTH

"Today in God’s big story, we’ll meet people who tracked a star on a long journey. They were looking for a new king—and they found and worshiped Him. We can worship Him too. Today’s Wonder Truth is **JESUS IS THE KING WE WORSHIP.**"

**Leader Tip:** For Older Kids. Nothing adds drama like sound effects! Encourage your older kids to create a soundtrack on the spot by making sound effects for the various obstacles (howling wolves, the “whoosh” of a sandstorm, etc.). Also consider giving older kids turns inventing obstacles and calling them out to the group.



## Declaring God's Wonder

### SLIDE: DECLARATION

Read each line boldly and invite kids to repeat after you.

**Thank You, God, that You are good!** (Kids repeat.)

**You made me on purpose, for a purpose.** (Kids repeat.)

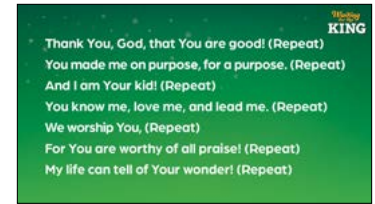
**And I am Your kid!** (Kids repeat.)

**You know me, love me, and lead me.** (Kids repeat.)

**We worship You,** (Kids repeat.)

**For You are worthy of all praise!** (Kids repeat.)

**My life can tell of Your wonder!** (Kids repeat.)



## Prayer of Invitation

Before entering into God's big story, lead kids in a prayer of invitation. Use the prayer here or your own words: **God, we thank You for sending Jesus to earth. He's our King, and we invite Your Holy Spirit to help us worship Him through every move we make, word we speak, and thought we think. We love You, God! In Jesus' name, Amen.**

## Worship

Consider sharing some about the songs you are going to sing. What they mean, why we sing them, why they are meaningful and important to you!

**"We're going to stand and sing together! One way that we show love to God is to worship through song! So stand up, sing loud, and join in the motions with us. God loves to hear us sing praises to Him! Let's stand together and sing!"**

**WORSHIP VIDEOS: O Come (All Ye Faithful), Great Things (Do You Hear What I Hear), Joy to the World (((pick 2)))**

## God's Big Story

**SUPPLIES:** Bibles (1 per kid)

### SLIDE: TITLE

Explain that today's Bible passage is in the book of Matthew, a book that describes the life of Jesus.

**"Let's start by reading part of God's big story directly from the Bible.**

**Afterward, we'll watch and experience more of the story!"**

Invite kids who are able to do so to stand respectfully and silently as you read Matthew 2:1–12 aloud. Read it with emotion—this passage is so familiar that listeners sometimes tune out, already knowing how it ends. The act of standing, as well as your careful reading, will help keep kids engaged. Then do one or both of the following:



## LESSON 5 THE MAGI

### EXPERIENCE IT! SCRIPT

**SUPPLIES:** doll; scissors (prep only); masking or painter’s tape; small boxes or other props to represent gifts of the wise men (3); yardstick, small broom, or stick (optional); character costumes (optional); character props (optional); cardstock (optional); yarn or string (optional); hole punch (optional)

**RESOURCES:** Scene Location Sheets, Star Sheet(from Curiosity Activity) Character Sheets

Ahead of time, designate four areas of your room to serve as locations in today’s story. If your room includes a stage area, then Jerusalem, Herod’s Palace, and Jesus’ Home in Bethlehem can be on the stage while the Land of the East can be across the room. Print the Scene Location Sheets and tape them to walls in their respective areas:



1. Land of the East, where the wise men begin (across the room from Bethlehem, if possible)
2. Jerusalem
3. Herod’s Palace (right next to Jerusalem)
4. Jesus’ Home in Bethlehem (relatively close to Jerusalem, but not as close as Herod’s Palace)

Reuse the star cut-out from Curiosity Activity. Consider taping the star on one end of a yardstick, small broom, or stick. Or plan on taping it directly to the shirt of the kid actor. Find a doll that could pass for an older infant or toddler boy (not a newborn and not feminine).



To help kids keep track of who is playing which characters, consider printing the Character Sheets on cardstock (if available). Punch two holes in the top of each Character Sheet and loop yarn or string through it to create a name sign that a kid can wear around his neck.



Before starting the story, assign kids to the following groups and invite them to take their places accordingly. If using the Character Sheets, give the appropriate sheet to one kid playing that role and have her wear it around her neck. (If using the Scene Location Slides rather than the sheets, have all the kids playing each part sit together.)

1. Magi (could be more than three!)—These kids will go to the place marked “Land of the East.” Give the three boxes or other gifts to three of the magi to carry.
2. Herod—He will go to the place marked “Herod’s Palace.”
3. Mary—She will go to the place marked “Jesus’ Home in Bethlehem.” Give Mary the doll to represent a young Jesus (not to be swaddled like a newborn, though!). Consider having her sit on a chair with the doll sitting on her lap.
4. The Star of Bethlehem—This kid will represent the star over Bethlehem, either holding the stick with the star attached or taping the star to his shirt. This kid will go to place marked “Jesus’ Home in Bethlehem.”

4. Jerusalem townspeople—These kids will go to the place marked “Jerusalem.” (There can be as many or as few townspeople as works for your group.)
5. Jewish religious leaders—These kids will go to “Jerusalem.” (There can be as many or as few religious leaders as works for your group.)
6. Camels—This is an optional role that works great for large groups with a lot of kid actors. The camels can accompany the magi.

If your group is large, involve as many kids as possible, but it is OK if some kids remain in their seats as the audience. Keep in mind that some kids may choose to remain seated rather than act—that’s OK! Audience members can encourage the actors by paying attention to the story and clapping at the end. If your group is small, you can assign just one kid to each of the group roles (magi, townspeople, and religious leaders).

**Leader Tip:** To make the experience more visually immersive and exciting for the kids, consider providing costumes and additional props for the various characters that they’ll play! For example, Mary can drape a scarf over her head, the magi can wear robes, and Herod can wear a crown.

### **Make It Inclusive!**

This story includes a lot of characters. Keeping track of them all can be difficult, especially for younger kids and those with special needs. Plan on using the Character Sheets to help kids keep track of characters, and invite all the characters to introduce themselves before the story begins.

**"Today each of you has a part to play as we learn God’s big story, and I’ll give you cues and instructions for when you need to do or say something, so make sure you’re listening carefully! Ready? Let’s go!**

**There was a time in God’s big story when God’s people were conquered and taken to live in the land of Babylon. While in Babylon, a man named Daniel had a dream about God’s promised King—the one who would rule forever. In his dream, Daniel saw people of all nations worshiping the King. Apparently, the everlasting King of Israel was coming for the nations, not just God’s chosen people.**

**After years of waiting, the time had come. Jesus was born! Jesus is the everlasting King! He was born in the town of Bethlehem in the same land that Babylon had once conquered. Now the land was controlled by Rome, and a man named Herod was king of Judea, which included Bethlehem and Jerusalem.** Encourage Herod to wave grandly to everyone.

**"After Jesus’ birth, Wise Men from the east came to Jerusalem"** (Matthew 2:1). Encourage the magi to start traveling slowly toward Bethlehem. If some kids in your group are playing the part of camels, they can travel alongside the magi while doing their best camel-inspired walks. **They traveled from somewhere near the heart of the old Babylonian Empire. But they didn’t come as conquerors. They came as worshipers, looking for the new king. They were magi—people who watched the stars**



**as they moved across the dark sky. Magi looked for meaning in the stars and served as advisers to powerful kings. Some people even think the magi may have been kings themselves! They came to Jerusalem because they saw a bright star rise up, and they knew a great king had been born.** Encourage the kid playing the star to wave or shake the star on its pole (or if the star is taped to his shirt, jump up and down), and have the magi point to the star. **Who put that star in the sky? Was God trying to get their attention?**

**Once they reached Jerusalem, which was close to Bethlehem, the magi asked people, “Where is the child who has been born to be king of the Jews? We saw his star when it rose. Now we have come to worship him”** (Matthew 2:2). Have the magi repeat this phrase (or part of it) to the Jerusalem townspeople. **When King Herod heard about this, he was upset.** Encourage Herod to act upset and stomp around. **“Aren’t I the king of the Jews?” Herod thought to himself.** Have Herod repeat this question as though talking to himself. **Herod didn’t like these wise out-of-towners asking about some other king. It made him jealous and angry. And when Herod was angry, the people of Jerusalem got worried. They never knew what Herod would do.** Encourage the Jerusalem townspeople to act afraid.

**Herod called together the chief priests and Jewish teachers of the law.** Encourage the Jewish religious leaders to go from Jerusalem to Herod’s Palace. **Herod asked, “Where is this Messiah supposed to be born?”** Have Herod repeat this to the Jewish religious leaders. **They told Herod, “According to the prophet Micah, the Messiah will be born in Bethlehem.”** Have the Jewish religious leaders repeat this answer, or some of it, to Herod. Then have them return to the area marked “Jerusalem.”

**After Herod found out that the new king would come from Bethlehem, he made a sneaky plan. He secretly called for the magi and found out when the star had appeared.** Have Herod call the magi to his palace. **Then Herod told the magi, “Go and search carefully for the child. As soon as you find him, report it to me. Then I can go and worship him too”** (Matthew 2:8). Have Herod repeat this, or some of it, to the magi. **But Herod didn’t want to worship Jesus. He was jealous and wanted to hurt Jesus.** Encourage Herod to look sneaky and wicked. **But God saw through Herod’s sneaky plan! God would warn the magi in a dream not to return to Herod.**

**The magi followed the star until it stopped over a house in Bethlehem.** Encourage the kid representing the star to hold the star above Bethlehem (or jump up and down next to Bethlehem, if wearing the star). Have the magi travel toward the star and Bethlehem. **God had shown them the way! They were filled with joy and excitement. They went to the house and saw Jesus with His mother.** Encourage the magi to excitedly go up to Mary. **They understood that Jesus was born to be a great king, so they bowed down and worshiped Him. “Then they opened their treasures. They gave him gold, frankincense and myrrh”** (Matthew 2:11). Encourage the magi to bow before Jesus (represented by a doll resting on Mary’s lap) and place their gifts in front of Jesus. **These shiny and sweet-smelling gifts were the magi’s way of honoring Jesus. They were expensive gifts fit for a king. And Jesus is not just any king. He’s the everlasting King sent by God—the one whom people of all nations will worship. He was King that day in Bethlehem, He’s King today, and He’ll be King forever. Jesus is the King we worship.**

**Great job helping with God’s big story today, everyone!”** Collect any props and costumes, and encourage the kids to return to their seats.

## Connecting the Wonder Truth

### SLIDE: WONDER TRUTH

Pose the following question to kids to help them connect the Wonder Truth to God's big story:

**"Our Wonder Truth today is **JESUS IS THE KING WE WORSHIP**.**

**Where did you see our Wonder Truth in action in the story?** Allow kids to answer freely.



**The wise men were not from the nation of Israel but "from the east," which was likely somewhere in ancient Babylon (Matthew 2:1). Hundreds of years before them, Daniel had a dream in which people of all nations worshiped the everlasting King. The wise men—who were from a faraway nation—came to Bethlehem to worship Jesus, the everlasting King! God's kingdom is made of people from every nation and language!"**

## In Awe of God's Wonder

Spend a few moments allowing kids to think about the wonder of God's story, ask questions, and simply be in awe of Him!

**The magi witnessed God in human form, a King not just of a country but the universe. And they seemed to understand the importance of His coming in a way many others didn't. No wonder they worshiped!**

**If you held a baby who you knew would grow up to save the world, how would you feel? What would you say or do?** Allow at least 30 seconds of quiet time to think before inviting kids to share their answers out loud. Waiting for 30 seconds might feel like an eternity, but trust that the Holy Spirit is working as you create space for Him.

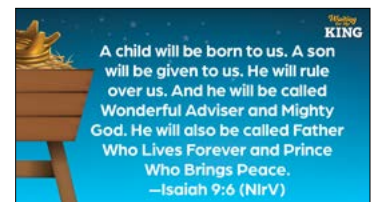
**What do you think is the most amazing part of this story?** Give kids time to think and explore their feelings before answering. Affirm all kids for risking answering aloud; it helps make your ministry a safe space for risk-averse children.

## Word of Wonder

**SUPPLIES:** Bibles (1 per kid)

### SLIDE: WORD OF WONDER

**"The Waiting for the King series Word of Wonder is Isaiah 9:6. In it we find several titles given to Jesus, titles that give us glimpses into who Jesus is. We know Jesus is the King we worship; what else do we know about who Jesus is? Let's find out!"**



Display the Word of Wonder Slide and invite kids to open their Bibles to Isaiah 9:6. Invite girls and boys to alternate reading each sentence or phrase out loud, with the girls reading the first, the boys reading the second, and so on. Do this several times. Consider assigning a reading partner to kids who may need assistance with reading.

Talk about these questions:

- **What names or titles for Jesus does this verse give? Why is having a king who can be called all four of these titles a good thing?**
- **Which of the four titles mentioned reminds you most of Jesus? Why?**

## Word of Wonder Activity

**SUPPLIES:** adhesive nametags or labels (1 per kid), marker

**Wonder Ink RESOURCES:** Word of Wonder Slide

Ahead of time, use a marker to write the names or titles for Jesus from Isaiah 9:6 on adhesivenametags or labels, enough so that each kid will get one nametag. Choose the four names your Bible translation of choice uses. For example, if using the NlrV, you will write “Wonderful Adviser” on a quarter of the nametags, “Mighty God” on another quarter, “Father Who Lives Forever” on another quarter, and “Prince Who Brings Peace” on the last quarter.

Give a nametag or label to each kid. (There should be approximately the same number of nametags with each title on it.) Explain that you’ll read the Word of Wonder passage aloud together, pausing when each title is read aloud. When a title is read, kids wearing that title will stand up, and then everyone else will point to those children before they sit back down. (If any kids in your group are unable to stand, invite all the kids to raise their hands rather than stand up when the title they’re wearing is read.) You’ll then go on reading. Read through the passage several times.

**"It's amazing that we have a king who can be described as a Wonderful Adviser, Mighty God, Father Who Lives Forever, and Prince Who Brings Peace. Jesus is all that—and more! No wonder Jesus is the King we worship!"**

**Leader Tip:** You can adjust the words you say to kids in this activity to match the specific titles given to Jesus in Isaiah 9:6 in whichever Bible translation you’re using. The bolded copy on this page is based on the NlrV.

## Responding in Worship: Crowning the King

**SUPPLIES:** homemade manger or butcher paper, gold or yellow yarn (30" per kid), scissors (prep only), pony beads (optional), metallic curly ribbon (optional), hay (optional), 11" x 17" paper (1 sheet, optional), tape (optional), glue (optional), markers (optional)

**RESOURCES:** [Waiting for the King Elementary Spotify playlist](#), [Manger Sheet](#)

Ahead of time, cut gold or yellow yarn into 30" lengths, making sure you have one per kid. If using metallic curly ribbon, also cut it into 30" lengths, making sure you have one or two per kid. Kids will use the yarn and/or ribbon to create simple string crowns. If your church has a homemade manger, set it to the side and fill it with hay. If you don’t have a manger, print the Manger Sheet on 11" x 17" paper (if possible).



Cut out the manger and glue or tape it to a large sheet of butcher paper. Consider drawing a simple outline of a stable as a background behind the manger. Alternatively, you might use the Manger Sheet as a template for tracing a larger-scale manger on butcher paper. Then tape the paper manger to a wall in front of the space where kids will gather. If neither a physical nor paper manger are possible in your setting, display the Manger Slide during the worship response activity.

### **SLIDE: RESPONDING IN WORSHIP**

Help kids pair up, and then give each kid a length of yarn. If using curly ribbon, also give a length of ribbon to each kid. If you have pony beads, set them where kids can access them.

Explain that kids will make crowns by tying the yarn into a loop around their foreheads. If ribbons and/or pony beads are also available, kids can use them to embellish their crowns. Partners will help one another tie the yarn. There will be extra yarn on the ends, which kids can tie in decorative knots, twist or braid together, or adorn with pony beads.

#### **Make It Inclusive!**

Kids with fine-motor-skill challenges may struggle tying, grasping yarn, and placing beads. They may need a peer or adult helper to assist them with making a crown.

As kids work, play music from the [Waiting for the King Elementary Spotify playlist](#). If you have a manger, quietly move it to the center of your teaching space while kids are focused on making their crowns. When kids are finished creating their crowns, gather everyone in front of the manger. Then kids can wear their crowns.

**Leader Tip:** Jesus would not have been in the manger when the magi visited and worshiped Him. Because of the length of their journey and the timing of the appearance of the star, Jesus would have been at least several months old. The manger in this activity, however, is a tangible symbol of Jesus. When kids place their crowns in the manger, they are symbolically declaring that Jesus is King and worshiping Him.

**"Today we've discovered what the magi knew: Jesus is the King we worship. Worship is when we respond to God by giving Him the honor and glory He deserves. We put Him first because He's most important. This means we don't let anything else take His place, and we thank and praise Him for who He is and what He does.**

**Worship is more than just the songs we sing about God or the kindness we show to others because God has been so kind to us. Worship is giving our whole hearts to God and trusting Him with our lives.**

**We're all wearing crowns, and some people believe the magi may have been wearing crowns too. Those wise men bowed before Jesus because they knew He was a very special king. But we know He's more than just a king—He is the King of all kings!**

In a few moments, I'll play a worship song, and I invite you to worship Jesus by bringing your crowns and laying them here in this manger. It represents Jesus, the Christ child, who is the King we worship.

Take your time. And if you're not ready to worship Jesus, that's OK. You can hang onto your crown. It's up to you, but we can all be sure of this: wise men—and women and kids—still worship Jesus."

Play a song from the [Waiting for the King Elementary Spotify playlist](#) (such as "All Hail King Jesus" or "O Come All Ye Faithful") as kids choose to bring their crowns to the manger. (Consider making and wearing your own crown. Then worship Jesus at the manger alongside the kids!) Close this activity by fading out the music and offering a brief prayer, thanking God for the opportunity to worship King Jesus.

**Leader Tip:** Don't allow kids to place their tied crowns over their necks or to run around wearing them. And don't allow children to leave your ministry area wearing their crowns in case the loops of yarn become a safety hazard. If kids wish to take home their crowns, they can do so by slipping the yarn into a pocket.

## Prayer Time

**"Most people might expect the everlasting King to be born in a palace surrounded by powerful, important people. But Jesus' birth was very different. He was born among farm animals and placed in a feeding trough, and the first people to visit Him were simple shepherds. Like the angel told the shepherd, Jesus' arrival really is "good news ... for all the people" (Luke 2:10, NIV). We are included in this—we are all people. Let's spend some time now thanking God for Jesus, the everlasting King!"**

Invite kids to share prayer requests and praises. They might share first with a neighbor and then with the group. Pray for each kid by name or invite them to take turns praying for each other. Then bring the group back together and invite kids to say words aloud that describe Jesus—He will be honored by their worship! If needed, get them started by saying a word or two of your own, such as loving or friend. Open and close the prayer time yourself.

## Blessing Your Kids

Speak a blessing over your kids, as a group or as individuals. If you bless kids individually, insert each name into the blessing.

**Blessing:** May Jesus, the King you worship, hold you close, shape your heart, and guide your path. Know that you are loved by your King. And know that He longs for your love too.

