

### 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.

**Object Lesson: Star Sensory Bags**

**Activity: Party for Jesus**

**Worship**

**God's Big Story**

**Prayer and Blessing**

**Activity: Follow the Star**

**Wonder@Home™**

Designed for families to engage in the wonder of God together at home. This resource includes a video, worship playlists, activities, and more!

## Object Lesson: Star Sensory Bags

**SUPPLIES:** large resealable bags (1 for every 3–4 kids), clear hair gel, star confetti or glitter, larger star shape, tape (prep only), black construction paper, scissors (prep only), star stickers (optional)

**Leader Tip:** To simplify this object lesson, instead of sensory bags, you can set out black construction paper and star stickers for kids to create the look of starry skies.

Before kids arrive, squirt clear hair gel into bags so each bag is half full. Add star confetti or glitter and one larger star shape to the bag. Seal the bag shut tightly and add a piece of tape across the opening. Tape a piece of black construction paper to the back of the bag. Glow in the dark stars would work great as the larger star in the bags. If you use stars that are pointy, be careful and watch closely to make sure the stars do not pierce the baggie.

Greet the kids warmly and welcome them to church.

**Welcome! It's good to see you! I made these special bags that you can take turns playing with. See if you can find one big star that stands out from the rest. Use your finger to guide the star, moving it all around the bag.**

Allow kids to take turns moving the stars around by pushing their fingers on the outside of the bag. Encourage them to find the big star and move it around the bag with their fingers. Make sure the bags don't tear open and the seal stays fully closed. **That was fun! Today we're going to hear about some people who saw a special star in the sky, and it led them to a special King!**



## Activity: Party for Jesus

**SUPPLIES:** streamers, tape (prep only), small boxes (3), scissors (prep only), wrapping paper (optional)

**Wonder Ink RESOURCES:** Gifts for Jesus Sheet

Before kids arrive, tape streamers to the wall or doorway, to look like a party celebration. Print a copy of the Gifts for Jesus Sheet. Cut apart the pictures of gold, frankincense, and myrrh and place the pictures in small gift boxes. If you want, you can wrap the gift boxes.

**What are some times we give gifts? Yes! Christmas and birthdays! Did you know that Christmas is a birthday? We celebrate Jesus' birth at Christmas. Let's celebrate Him now with a party!**

**Let's all sing "Happy Birthday" to Jesus. Lead kids in singing. Great singing!**

**What else do we do at birthday parties? That's right—open gifts! Allow kids to open the three wrapped gifts. We're going to find out more about these gifts in our story. Giving gifts is one way we can show someone we love them. Worship means showing God that we love Him.**



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

Encourage the kids to do the following motions while you repeat the Wonder Truth. Older toddlers can say the words with you as they do the motions.

**JESUS**—Point up.

**IS THE KING**—Pretend to put a crown on your head.

**WE WORSHIP**—Hold your hands up over your head.

## Worship

**Wonder Ink RESOURCES:** songs from the [Waiting for the King Early Childhood Spotify playlist](#)

**We'll learn in God's big story that we can worship Jesus as our King! Let's worship Him by singing!**

Play songs from the [Waiting for the King Early Childhood Spotify playlist](#) and encourage the kids to sing and dance with you.

## God's Big Story

**SUPPLIES:** Bible, small gift box

**Wonder Ink RESOURCES:** [God's Big Story Video](#)

**Our God's big story today is a great story from the Bible about some wise men called "magi."**

Encourage the kids to say, "magi." **Let's find out from the Bible what happened to the magi!**

Show the kids the God's Big Story Video or read the story from the Bible or use the Script provided.

**God sent the promised King. Jesus was born!** Have the kids clap and cheer.

**After Jesus' birth, wise men came from far away to find the King. These wise men saw a bright star in the sky.** Encourage kids to look up and put one hand over their eyes like they're looking up for something. **The magi knew the great King had been born. Who put that star in the sky? Was God trying to tell the magi something?**

**The magi followed the star until it stopped over a house in Bethlehem. God showed them the way! The wise men were joyful and excited.** Have the kids clap and cheer. **They went to the house and saw Jesus with His mother. The magi knew that Jesus was born to be a great King, so they bowed down and worshiped Him.** Bow your head for a moment.

**The magi gave Jesus gifts.** Hold up the small gift box. **"They gave him gold, frankincense and myrrh"** (Matthew 2:11). **The magi gave Jesus these shiny and sweet-smelling gifts to show Jesus how special He was.**

**Jesus is not just any king. He's the everlasting King sent by God—the one people all over the earth will worship. Jesus is the King we worship.**

## Prayer and Blessing

Let's talk to God.

**God, thank You for sending Jesus to be our King. We worship You and praise You. You're amazing! We love You so much. In Jesus' name, Amen.**

Encourage the kids to hold their hands out in front of them, with palms up, as if their hands were open to receive something. Tell them to listen and receive the blessing as you speak it over them.

**Blessing:** May Jesus, the King you worship, hold you close, shape your heart, and guide you. Know you are loved by your King and He loves when you praise and worship Him!

## Activity: Follow the Star

**SUPPLIES:** yellow construction paper, pen or pencil, scissors (prep only), tape, ruler, dollhouse

Ahead of time, draw a star on a sheet of yellow construction paper and cut it out. Tape it to one end of a ruler. Set a dollhouse (or picture of a house) at one end of the room.

**In our story, we heard about magi who followed a star that led them to Jesus. Let's follow this star and see where it leads. Watch the star so you can follow it!**

**Leader Tip:** It's OK if kids aren't in a single file line. They can follow the star or leader in a group or on their own.

Hold up the star as you walk around the room. Encourage kids to watch the star and follow where it goes. After moving around the room, end at the dollhouse. **We ended up at a house. When the wise men followed the star, they ended up at the place where Jesus lived, and they worshiped Him!**