



# Children's Worship



## A Getting Ready Prayer

God, as we get ready to be with you,  
Open our ears to listen to you  
(touch your ears)

Open our minds to help us think about you.  
(put your hands on your head)

Open our eyes to see you in the world around us.  
(point to your eyes)

Open our hearts to love you more.  
(cross your hands over your chest)  
And open our hands to help each other.  
(open out arms and hands wide)

Amen.

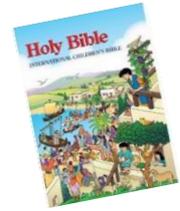


## Time to think...

- ✚ I wonder, did you receive many gifts for Christmas? I'm sure that you did.
- ✚ Of all of the gifts that you received for Christmas, what was the very best one? What was your favourite?
- ✚ You know, Christmas, might be nearly over and some of the excitement may be nearly gone as we may have put our presents away or eaten them up if they were sweets and treats.
- ✚ However, there is one Christmas gift that is different.
- ✚ It never wears out.
- ✚ It never goes out of style.
- ✚ You will never become tired of it.
- ✚ It is a gift that keeps on giving year, after year, after year.
- ✚ Do you know what that gift is?
- ✚ It is the true gift that Christmas is all about.
- ✚ It is God's gift to us. His Son, Jesus.
- ✚ Today we are going to hear the story of the Magi, also known as the 3 Wise Men or the 3 Kings...



Sunday 3<sup>rd</sup> January 2021  
The Magi and Two Very Different Kings



**Tell the story...**

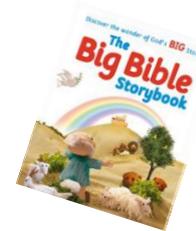
Here are ways you could do this:

- + You can read the story in the gospel of Matthew 2: 1-12 in a children's Bible.
- + Or read 'A Message for the Wise Men' Pg 128-129 in 'The Big Bible Storybook' by SPCK
- + Here's a few different video's telling this part of the Christmas story.

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=Zk1LhngROCM>

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=22SMUUMsx0o>

[https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=0jYo\\_xYLPu8](https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=0jYo_xYLPu8)



**Talk Together...**

- + While many people were overjoyed and immediately praised God upon hearing the news of Jesus' birth, some reacted differently.
- + One of these people was King Herod.
- + As we learned earlier, Bethlehem was the city where Mary and Joseph travelled to, to participate in the census, and ultimately, where Jesus was born.
- + A group of wise men knew by the star, that Saviour had been born so they travelled to find him.
- + Now if you were looking for a New Born King, where would you go looking? A palace maybe?
- + They came across King Herod and asked, "Where is the one who has been born king of the Jews? We saw his star when it rose and have come to worship him" (Matthew 2:2).
- + Herod was outraged that there was another king to be born in Bethlehem so he tricked the wise men into telling him more about Jesus, lying and saying that he wanted to go worship the baby, when he really wanted to kill him.
- + The wise men continued to follow the star to Bethlehem.
- + When they arrived, they praised Jesus and gave Him special gifts of Gold, Frankincense and Myrrh expressing their joy and gratefulness through worship.

- ✚ However, when it was time to return home, God warned the wise men through a dream that Herod was not to be trusted and they needed to take a different route home.
- ✚ An angel also appeared to Joseph, delivering the same news about Herod so Joseph, Mary and Jesus could escape before his soldiers came.



- ✚ Jesus was God's greatest gift to us, for so many reasons.
- ✚ Just as the star led the wise men to Jesus, God guides us along our journey.
- ✚ And just as an angel appeared to the wise men warning them of King Herod's plan, God directs and protects us.
- ✚ We can trust that He will lead us to safety and into His great plans for our lives just as He did with the wise men.
- ✚ They faithfully followed God and He wants you to follow Him as well.
- ✚ Anyone can become a follower of God, even when things seem scary or unknown, we can trust in Him.

✚ **Questions to think about:**

- ✚ What are some ways you follow God in your daily life?
- ✚ What tools does He use to guide you?
- ✚ How can you encourage other people in your life to follow God?

**Sing Together... (or listen)**

- ✚ SEE THE STAR  
<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=eQvEfUZols8>
- ✚ WE THREE KINGS - HILLSONG  
<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=fEGHk9LXQSk>
- ✚ WE THREE KING - REND COLLECTIVE  
<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=Tp83tnTSIOY>

## Make Together...

- ✚ Use cardboard, paper, pens, paints, paper plate/bowl, tissue paper, string, foam, magazines, newspapers, lollipop sticks, sticks, wool, toilet roll tubes or whatever you have in the house to make...
- ✚ Create a stain glass star for your window...



- ✚ Make a crown... (send us a picture of you wearing it)



- ✚ Make a star shaped book (the template can be found in the Children's resources section on the team website)...



- ✚ Complete the colouring page...



- ✚ Complete a star dot to dot... (see below)



- ✚ Help the Wise Men find the Baby Jesus, by completing the Maze below...

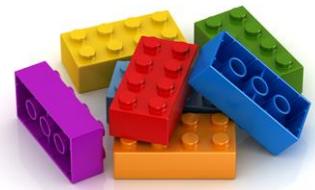


## Be Active Together...

- ✚ Play "Find the Star"... cut out a bunch of star shapes out of paper. Make them all the same except for one — make it a little bigger. Hide the stars all around the house. Explain to the children that the wise men knew that the star would lead them to Jesus because it was very different from all the other stars. It had appeared in the sky and hadn't been there before and it moved across the sky leading them to Jesus. On the word "go", everyone should go and try to find the star they think is different from all the rest. When they find it, they should stand by the star until you say "Stop". Everyone then comes back together, to compare the stars to see which one is different.
- ✚ Play Follow the Star... It's like "Follow the Leader" except have the leader hold up a large star on a stick. The leader should lead everyone around - under tables and chairs, as well as, jumping, sliding his or her feet, clapping, crawling, walking backwards, marching, swinging arms, twirling in circles, skipping, etc. Everyone should do exactly what the leader is doing.

## Build Together...

- ✚ Using Lego or other building blocks -
- ✚ Build a nativity scene, add the wise men and retell the story.
- ✚ Build a palace and a stable and talk about the differences between Jesus and Herod.
- ✚ Build a Lego star.



## Remember together... (memory verse)

"When they saw the star, they were overjoyed. On coming to the house, they saw the child with his mother Mary, and they bowed down and worshiped him. Then they opened their treasures and presented him with gifts of gold, frankincense and myrrh."

Matthew 2: 10-11

## Pray Together...

Dear Father God,  
Thank you for sending your son, Jesus, as a gift to us.  
Help us to show our love for him by following him, showing love to others and  
trusting in you.  
Amen

## Don't forget...

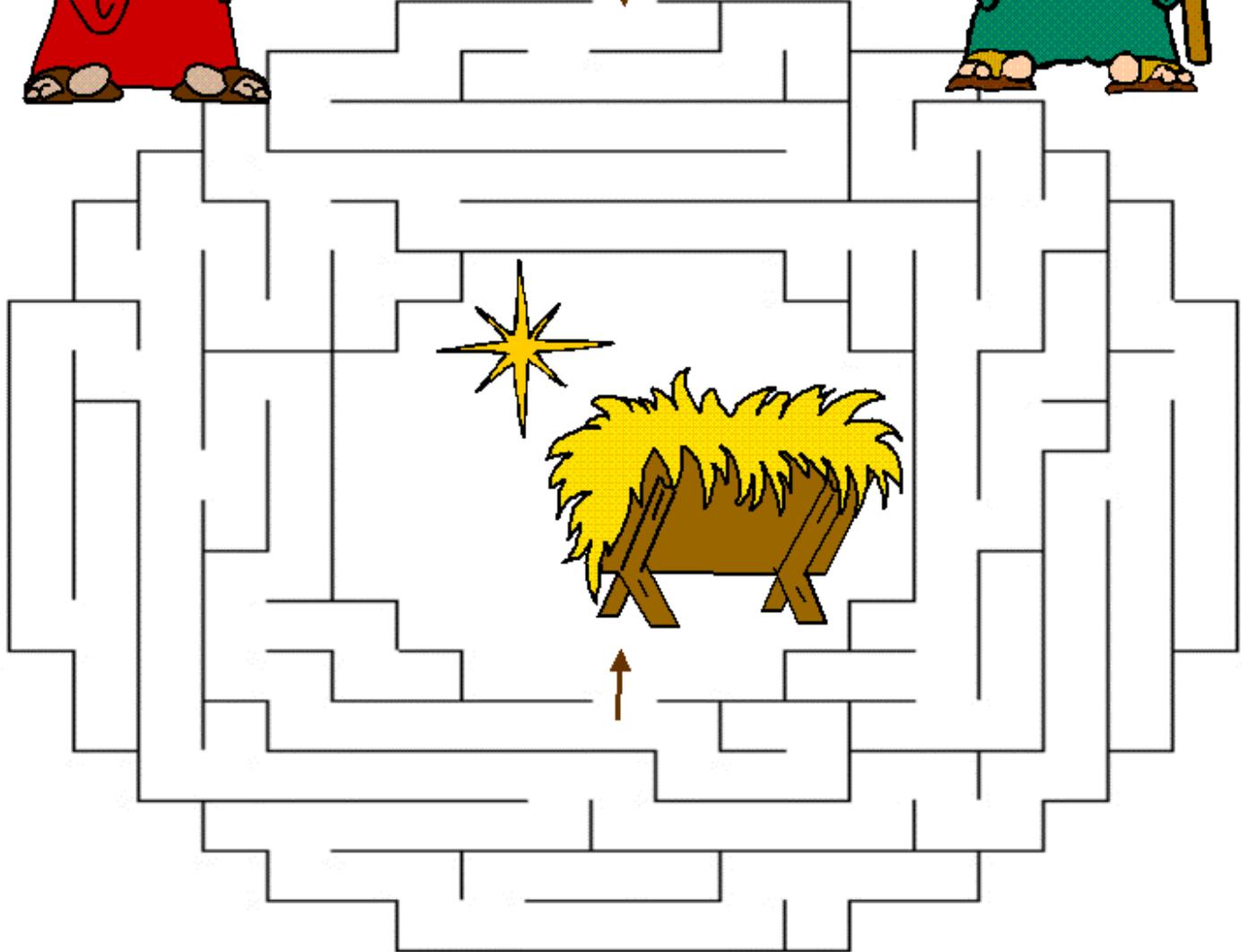
- ✚ Whatever you create, share it on our churches FB pages; tag us in so everyone can see. Turton Moorland Team Page @TMOTP (FB)
- ✚ You could also send it to [stmaxentiusonline@gmail.com](mailto:stmaxentiusonline@gmail.com) and I will send them on to Revd Peter our Team Rector, then they can be shared in the online weekly.
- ✚ For more activities and links go to our Turton Moorland Team website - Children's Resources - <https://turtonmoorlandteam.co.uk/turton-youth-church/#childrens-resources>



# Christmas Maze



Help the wise men find the manger.



Name: \_\_\_\_\_

# Star Dot-to-Dot

INSTRUCTIONS: Beginning with the star, draw a line to each number counting 1-10 to create a large star.

