

JESUS' BIRTH FORETOLD



Quarter 2: God the Son — Lesson 14



Year 1—Quarter 2: God the Son

Jesus' Coming Foretold

OBJECT LESSON: Hold up a star left over from Christmas decorations.

Q: Ask the kids: What part of the Christmas story does this star remind you of? (*Answer: the Wise Men*)

Q: Now ask: Have you ever wondered how the Wise Men knew that a great king was born in Israel, and how they knew that it was His star they followed, or that He would be born in Bethlehem?

A: They knew all these things by reading and studying the ancient prophecies about the coming King. We now know the King's name: Jesus.

Ancient prophecies foretold His family genealogy:

- Offspring of Abraham (Acts 3:5)
- Offspring of Isaac (Gen. 17:19)
- Offspring of Jacob (Nu. 24:17)
- Of the tribe of Judah (Ge.49:10)
- Heir to the throne of David (Isa 9:7)

Prophecies foretold his birthplace and that his Mother would be a virgin:

- Born in Bethlehem (Mic. 5:2)
- Born of a virgin (Isa. 7:14)

The Wise Men went to visit king Herod to try to find the new King. Herod was an evil king who was jealous of the new King. Herod ordered all baby boys in or near Bethlehem to be killed. Even that event was foretold in the ancient prophecies: *Jeremiah 31:15, "This is what the Lord says, 'A voice is heard in Ramah, mourning and great weeping, Rachel weeping for her children and refusing to be comforted, because her children are no more.'*"

Because Jesus came, we can better understand God's plans. In fact, the Bible tells us that Jesus is God: *"No one has seen God, but God the only son, who is at the Father's side, has made him known."* (John 1:18)

Power Point

Everything God said about Jesus' birth came true.

MEMORY VERSE:

**"No one has seen God, but God the only son, who is at the Father's side, has made him known."
(John 1:18)**

Game: Secret of the Pyramid

Have a contest between a boy team and a girl team. Have six kids on each team form a human pyramid. Time them to see which team forms a pyramid first and which team stays up the longest.

Interview the spokesperson for the winning team. Ask them their secret for being a winning pyramid.

The answer will have something to do with putting the larger kids on the bottom, or something like that.

Now, transition to today's lesson by saying, "Today we are going to learn about ancient secrets that are older than the pyramids."

These secrets reveal the very plans of God





Gold, Frankincense and Myrrh

The three types of gifts represents the three roles of Jesus the Messiah:

Gold represents His kingly office. We bring gold to honor Him as King, to give Him our best, and to yield to the purification process of the fiery trials.

Frankincense represents His divinity. This sweet smelling incense was used in offerings presented to God. It is a resin that oozes from a slit in a tree in Arabia and forms drops or “tears.” We bring frankincense to worship Him even in the midst of our brokenness.

Myrrh represents His manhood. Myrrh means “bitter.” It was used chiefly in embalming the dead. We bring myrrh to recognize that He has identified with us in our pain and sorrow.

More lessons to learn from these gifts:

We don't know the names of the Magi. Godly men and women give out of a pure motivation of desire to honor the Lord. These people, like the Magi, don't care to have their names mentioned.

The gifts were items local to their home area. We should give “homemade” gifts, or gifts that truly come from our hearts.

The gifts were a part of their worship. They bowed down before Him, and they offered Him gifts. They had just met baby Jesus; he had performed no miracles; he had no one else to do him homage; he was but a helpless Babe, yet they fell down and worshipped him.

These gifts sustained Joseph and Mary on their journey to Egypt and represent God's providence.

Game: Blind Journey

Here is a game that can be applied to the Magi being guided by ancient prophecies, by a star, and by God to find the Messiah.

Procedure: Blind fold everyone participating and line them up one behind the other. Then lead them out to a location away from your meeting place. Place adult leaders around the perimeter to keep anyone from falling or tripping over something that would hurt them.

Objective: To have everyone separate and find their way back to a designated location. *(There will be many different emotions felt by the individuals in the group)*

After about 5 min. have the people pair up and have one person wear the blind fold and the other person be their guide. The guide must direct the person back to the destination by speaking to them and giving them direction. *(No touching)*. The emotions and feelings of being guided while still not being able to see will be quite different.

Conclusion: Have the group to share in a small group setting the feelings they experienced. Hopefully they will experience the difference between walking blindly without God and walking in faith with God

Wise Men Coloring Page



Take-Home

Summary

Bible Passages:

“No one has seen God, but God the only son, who is at the Father’s side, has made him known.”
(John 1:18)

Main Point:

Everything God said about Jesus’ birth came true.

Discuss:

Q: What did the Wise Men follow?

A: A star

Q: Where was Jesus born?

A: Bethlehem

Q: Who was Jesus’ Mother?

A: Mary

Gospel Connection: God’s plan to save people from sin and death was not a secret plan. God used the prophets to give hope to His people. They said God would send a Messiah—born into the world as a baby—to live the perfect life people fail to live and die the guilty death we deserve.

Explore the Bible

Use your Bible to look up the New Testament passages. Match each Old Testament prophecy with how it came true at Jesus’ birth.

- 1) Matthew 1:1-2
- 2) Matthew 1:6, 17
- 3) Matthew 1:18-23
- 4) Matthew 2:13-15
- 5) Luke 2:17

- **Jesus will be born in Bethlehem. (Micah 5:2)**
- **Jesus’ mother will be a virgin. (Isaiah 7:14)**
- **Jesus will be called out of Egypt. (Hosea 11:1)**
- **Jesus will come from the family of King David. (Jeremiah 23:5)**
- **Jesus will be a descendant of Abraham, Isaac, and Jacob. (Genesis 12:1-3; 26:3-4; 35:11-12)**

Journal Time

Have your child/children write answers to the following questions in their journals. (If they have no journals, consider helping them begin one.)

- What does this lesson teach me about God or the gospel?
- What does this lesson teach me about myself?
- Are there any commands in these passages to obey? How are they for God’s glory and my good?
- Are there any promises in these passages to remember? How do they help me trust and love God?
- How does this lesson help me to live on mission better?

Apply and Pray

Discuss: *Why was Jesus born? (Jesus was born to rescue us from sin. When we are rescued from sin, God makes us His sons and daughters!)*

Pray: Father, thank You for providing trustworthy information to tell people about the Messiah. Your perfect Word helps us see that the Bible is trustworthy and true. Help us to boldly tell others about Jesus. Give us courage to live on mission for You. Amen.