

Seek God - Online
Matthew 2:1-12
January 5, 2025

Come Together

Prepare to Learn

Supplies – Posters (class pack 12&13, 6&19)

Ask: Who has looked at the stars in the sky? What do you know about stars? Does anyone know what a constellation is? Can you identify a constellation if you look at the night sky? What are people who study the stars called?

Say: We're going to take a short quiz now and see how much we know about our night sky.

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=Y-Xfu12WzLI> (How did we do?)

Say: We talked at Christmas about the wise men who came to visit Jesus. They were people who studied the sky. They were sure the sky would tell people when a special event was about to happen. One night something did happen. A new star appeared that they had never seen before. The people who studied the stars knew that this was something special.

Faith Focus – We Discover God Together

Ask: Have you ever had to look for something a long time? How did you find it? Who helped you? *Allow children time to share their thoughts.*

Say: It can be easier to find what we are looking for when we do it together. A group of people called the magi, or wise men followed a star to find Jesus and they searched for him together. They used the star like a giant clue and listened for God in a new way.

Let's pray, then hear our story.

Prayer:

Dear God,

Thank you for giving us ways to search for you. Help us to work together to discover more about you. Amen.

Open the Bible

Say: A star told the wise men of something special that had happened. Let's see our story to hear the important message.

Online version: <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=vzVBZ03IIY8>

In person will watch Big Faith DVD

Faith Response

Seek God - Online

Matthew 2:1-12

January 5, 2025

The following activities will depend on your group. If it is a larger group with several younger kids, it can be split, and activities can be done separately. Read through them and decide what works best for your group.

Say: The magi traveled together to find Jesus. Even though the magi did not follow God before the first Christmas, the magi recognized God's power and God's use of the star.

Ask: In what ways can we follow God today?

1. Paper Star - Craft



Kids remember the Magi searching for the star and finding Jesus (craft from <https://craftandcreativity.com/blog/2011/11/10/stjarnor/>)

Supplies:

- Heavy paper in different patterns
- scissors
- Ruler
- Buttons
- Yarn / strings (plastic needle and thread available for attaching string)
- Beads
- Glitter, stickers and other craft supplies available to decorate

Instructions:

1. *Print out stars in various colors and shapes.*
2. *Allow kids to put together however they'd like. For a 3D star, put a button on spacer between layers.*
3. *Allow kids to decorate papers to make their own unique design.*
4. *Poke a hole in the middle of the star to attach a string. (If you have multiple stars together, make sure to poke a hole in both for the string.)*
5. *Attach a button on the front and/or decorate the stars with the available materials. Thread some beads on the string if you'd like and tie a knot.*

2. Hunt for the Star – Game

Supplies: *Cut out star and tape*

Say: The Magi followed the star to find Jesus. We are going to hunt for our own star.

- Pick one child to sit in a chair facing the opposite direction from the class.
- Pick another child to take the star and hide it somewhere in the room.
- Allow the seated child to look for the star around the room.
- Have the rest of the children say “hot star” when the searcher is close and “cold star” when the searcher is far from the star.
- Continue playing with different children hunting and hiding the star.

Share Your Faith

Seek God - Online

Matthew 2:1-12

January 5, 2025

Supplies: Poster (8&17), sticky notes, pencils

Say: The magi followed a star to find Jesus. We have the Bible to teach us about God's love. We have our friends and church community to help us discover God together.

Give each child a sticky note and something to write with.

Ask: What do you see on our poster?

Invite each child to draw something that helps her or him follow God. Encourage children to share what they decided to draw and to place the notes on the poster. (Alternately for older children, invite each child to share one way that she or he wants to follow God. Write these on the sticky notes and place them on the poster.)

Extra Activities:

There will be constellation worksheet available such as dot to dots

(<https://www.crayola.com/free-coloring-pages/print/constellation-star-to-star-coloring-page/>) and constellation printable (<https://everyday-reading.com/wp-content/uploads/2013/06/constellation-printables.jpg>).

In person – Take Home page