Christmas Schools' Week Assemblies 2020

Day 5

Worshippers: The Wise Men from the East

Read

Matthew chapter 2, verses 1-2	Matthew chapter 2, verse 11
[1] Jesus was born in the town of Bethlehem in Judea, during the time when Herod was king. Soon afterwards, some men who studied the stars came from the east to Jerusalem [2] and asked, "Where is the baby born to be the king of the Jews? We saw his star when it came up in the east, and we have come to worship him."	[11] They went into the house, and when they saw the child with his mother Mary, they knelt down and worshipped him. They brought out their gifts of gold, frankincense and myrrh, and presented them to him.

Watch

Day 5 - The Wisemen from the East

https://youtu.be/rIAccWN9KLg

Understand

Can you remember what the gifts the Magi (Wise men brought)? What gifts do you think you would take if you were visiting a new baby? Click on the following link and see if you can decide…

'Who would live in a house like this?'

https://youtu.be/varfETkPqO4

The wise men brought gold, frankincense and myrrh. Can you find out what they symbolised or were used for later in Jesus' life?

Have our scoreboard power point at the ready to take part in our grand Christmas Quiz! Split the class into two teams, taking turns to answer a question. If they answer correctly, they may choose an image. Their score will be revealed when their chosen image is clicked on. Keep track of those scores!

Questions

1. Q: What is a prophet?
   A: Someone with a message from God.

2. Q: Where was the special baby born?
   A: Bethlehem (also accept in a cave, stable, manger or feeding trough).

3. Q: Can you remember anyone who was visited by an angel?
   A: Mary, Zechariah or the shepherds.

4. Q: Why was everyone surprised when they heard that Mary's cousin, Elizabeth was having a baby?
   A: Because they thought she was too old to be having a baby.

5. Q: Mary was very excited because she was engaged to be married. Who was she engaged to?
   A: Joseph (also accept a carpenter).

6. Q: Why had so many people travelled to Bethlehem?
   A: Because the Romans wanted everyone to go back to their hometown to be counted (accept any part of that answer, also that they were part of King David's family).

7. Q: What made the shepherds leave their sheep?
   A: They saw an angel.

8. Q: What made the Magi (wise men) set out on their journey?
   A: They saw a star.

9. Q: Where did the wise men stop first?
   A: At King Herod's palace.

10. Q: What did Herod ask the wise men to do?
    A: To come back and tell him where the baby was.

Pray

Maybe a child would like to write a prayer to use, or you can use ours, which today is taken from Psalm 24 (the Bible's prayer book):

The earth is the Lord's and everything in it, the world and all who live in it … Who is the King of Glory? … The Lord strong and mighty … He is the King of Glory. Hallelujah! Amen.

Explore

<u>Can you find the way?</u>

- **Easier**
  Find your way through the maze (printable sheet) and help the wise men to find Jesus.

- **Trickier**
  Use the code to find the missing words from the story (printable sheet).

<u>Explore new ways to pray</u>

- **Suitable for all**
  Christians believe that there are many ways to pray and that God always listens to our prayers. Why not try these:

Paper chain prayers

Make a paper chain, adding a link for each person who is special to you and your family. Write a name on each link. Pray for each person as you add them to your chain.

Finger prayers: write names of people on a paper hand or just say the names:

Thumb – people close to me (you could use your paper chain)

Index finger – people who help me

Middle finger – leaders

Ring finger – those who are ill

Little finger – myself

<u>What happened next?</u>

- **Trickier**
  Read Matthew chapter 2. Discuss the role of Herod. What were the events which followed the Christmas story which you have heard so far in these assemblies?