

EPISODE 4

Connect with Family

Bible Story: **Wise Men Worship Jesus (Matthew 2:1-12)**

Connection Point: **We can worship God for the gift of Jesus.**



Go to ConnectedChristmas.com/Episode4 to watch the Bible story video:

Wise Men Worship Jesus.

Get Connected

- What are some ways we can connect and worship God together?
- Why is Jesus the greatest gift ever?

BONUS QUESTIONS

- What is your favorite Christmas song?
- What is your favorite worship song, and why?

Read

- Explore Matthew 2:1-12 from the Bible.

Pray

- Praise and worship God for the gift of Jesus.



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Memorize & Sing

WHAT TO DO

Memorize 2 Corinthians 9:15.



"Thanks be to God for his indescribable gift!"



Sing your favorite Christmas songs about Jesus. Search online for children's videos of the songs. Here are a few suggestions!

- “Come All Ye Faithful”
- “Joy to the World”
- “The Greatest Gift”
- “Silent Night”
- “What Child Is This?”



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Create

WHAT TO DO

Recycle something from your house and turn it into a gift for someone. (Examples: Turn an old coffee can into a piggy bank. Make a mason jar snow globe. Create a cereal box mail holder.) As you are working, talk about what it means to worship God. What gifts could you give to Him?

SUPPLIES

- Items to recycle (coffee cans, mason jars, empty cereal boxes, etc.)
- Supplies needed for creating recycled gifts (will vary)



QUICK OPTION

Play a family game of Hot and Cold to find a hidden star. Quickly make a paper star and hide it somewhere in the room (or an adjacent room). Let family members search for the star. Let them know if they are hot (near the star) or cold (far from the star). The person who finds the star can hide it again, while other family members close their eyes. Repeat until everyone has had a turn hiding the star. Talk about how the wise men followed the star to find Jesus.

SUPPLIES

- Paper
- Scissors



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Hands On

WHAT TO DO

Have a Christmas worship party using your own homemade instruments. Instruments could include pan lid cymbals, wooden spoon rhythm sticks, metal spoon clappers, an upside-down bucket hand drum. Play your favorite worship music or Christmas music about Jesus. Sing together—and dance if you want—as you shout out reasons to praise God.

SUPPLIES

- Christmas music
- Items to use for homemade instruments (pan lids, wooden spoons, metal spoons, bucket, etc.)

QUICK OPTION

Talk about your family's favorite worship song. What does that song tell you about God? How does it communicate your feelings toward God? Sing a verse or chorus of the song together. Pray and thank God for the gift of His Son, Jesus.

SUPPLIES

No supplies needed



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WHAT TO DO

Make chocolate pretzel crowns to celebrate the birth of Jesus, who is the King of all kings. Use the recipe provided. As you enjoy the treats, remember the valuable gifts the wise men brought when they came to worship Jesus. Name reasons you are thankful for Jesus. Talk about ways you can worship God for His gift of Jesus. (OR buy a premade birthday cake and candles. Light the candles and sing “Happy Birthday” to Jesus.)

Chocolate Pretzel Crowns Recipe

INGREDIENTS

- 24 pretzels (mini or square)
- 24 chocolate kisses (unwrapped)
- 24 coated chocolate candies
- Sprinkles or other edible decorations
- Optional: premade birthday cake

SUPPLIES

- Large baking sheet
- Parchment paper
- Oven and oven mitt
- Kitchen potholders
- Optional: birthday candles

DIRECTIONS

1. Preheat the oven to 350°F. (Grownups only!)
2. Line a large baking sheet with parchment paper. Lay the pretzels out in a single layer on the baking sheet. Top each pretzel with an unwrapped chocolate kiss.
3. Place in oven. Bake for 2-4 minutes or until the candies have just started to soften.
4. Remove from oven. Place baking sheet on potholders. (Grownups only!)
5. Gently press a chocolate candy into the top of each chocolate kiss. Kids can help, but watch out for the hot baking sheet and hot candies. Top with sprinkles or other edible decorations.

EPISODE 4 – **Bake** (continued)

6. Let sit for 10 minutes or until chocolate has set.
7. Enjoy the snack. Store extras in an airtight container.

QUICK OPTION

Have family members use whatever they can find in your refrigerator or pantry to create no-bake “gifts” for one another. (Examples: jelly and cracker treats, a snack bag of cereal and pretzel mix, a shiny apple, pudding or gelatin cups) Talk about how the wise men gave gifts to Jesus and how Jesus is a gift from God to us. Then discuss what gift you would bring to Jesus if you could visit Him like the wise men did.

SUPPLIES

- Refrigerator or pantry items you already have (jelly, crackers, cereal, pretzels, apples, pudding or gelatin cups, etc.)
- Paper plates, napkins, snack bags as needed



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Serve

WHAT TO DO

Worship God as you serve others. As a family, take a plate of cookies or brownies (or [Chocolate Pretzel Crowns](#) made in the Bake activity) to service workers at a local fire station, police station, senior care facility home, or hospital. Spread the joy of Jesus and let the people you are serving know that they are special to you and to God.

SUPPLIES

- Cookies or brownies (or [Chocolate Pretzel Crown](#) treats)



QUICK OPTION

Pray for the local service workers in your community. Choose Christmas cards that picture the birth of Jesus. Or use the [Christmas Card Printable](#) to create your own cards. Have family members sign the cards. Mail them to community workers, thanking them for the work they do.

SUPPLIES

- Christmas cards (or [Christmas Card Printable](#))
- Pens or pencils
- Postage

Connected Christmas

A Family Experience

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