

Light Show: Let the Christmas celebration begin

First, watch
this week's
video!

Christmas:
Celebrating
Jesus, God's
greatest gift

Memory Verse

"God so loved the world that he gave his one and only Son. Anyone who believes in him will not die but will have eternal life."
John 3:16, NIV

Bible Story

Wise Men
Matthew 2:1-12

Bottom Line

Never stop
celebrating Jesus.

Use this guide to help your family learn about and celebrate the Christmas story.

Activity

Star Search

What You Need:

Paper, scissors, pencil or pen, flashlight (a phone flashlight is fine)

What You Do:

Draw 10 star shapes on a piece of paper, and then cut them out. Hide the stars around a room.

Tell your child, "We're going on a search for stars. There are 10 stars hidden around the room. I'm going to shine this flashlight in the area where each star is. Let's see how many stars you can find!"

If possible, do this activity in the dark, with the lights off. Using your flashlight, guide your child to find all the stars.

Talk About the Bible Story

How was our game today like what the wise men did in our story? (*The wise men followed a star.*)

Why did the wise men follow the star? (*They knew it pointed to something special.*)

How did the wise men celebrate Jesus? (*They bowed down to Him and gave Him gifts.*)

What are some ways we can celebrate Jesus all year long?

Parent: Schedule three other dates throughout the year for your family to celebrate Jesus together. You could have a Christmas in July, where you break out the Christmas decorations for a few days and sing Christmas carols. Or you could simply choose some dates where you'll intentionally thank God for sending Jesus and talk about how you can worship Him with your everyday life.

Prayer

Use this prayer as a guide, either after talking about the Bible story or sometime before bed tonight:

"God, You are amazing! Nothing is impossible for You. You love the world so much that You gave us Jesus . . . and when we believe in Him, we can have a relationship with You forever. Jesus is worth celebrating all year long. Help us to remember each day to look for ways we can celebrate Your greatest gift, Jesus! Amen."

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Key Question

How can you celebrate Jesus all year long?

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Activity

String Star

What You Need:

Long string or piece of yarn (ideally, 15 to 20 inches long), timer

What You Do:

Place the string on a table. Challenge your child to form the yarn into a star shape using only one hand, without ever removing their hand from the string. Time them to see how long it takes.

When their turn is over, it's your turn! Let your child time you as you try to shape the string into a star. When you're finished, crown the "shining star" shaper (i.e. whoever created a star in the shortest amount of time).



Talk About the Bible Story

How was the star important in our story today? *(The wise men followed the star, and it led them to Jesus.)*

Why did the wise men follow the star? *(They knew it pointed to something special.)*

How did the wise men celebrate Jesus? *(They bowed down to Him and gave Him gifts.)*

Why do you think it's sometimes hard for us to celebrate the meaning of Christmas all year long?

What are some ways we can celebrate Jesus all year long?

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