

Love is an action



Bible verses:
Matthew 2:1-12



Aim:
To see how the wise men faithfully responded to God's gift of Jesus, and to learn that we can also respond by giving ourselves fully to God



Today's fruit:
Faithfulness

Resource: *Wise men come to visit Jesus*



Memory verse

'God will give us a son who will be responsible for leading the people. His name will be Wonderful Counsellor, Powerful God, Father Who Lives Forever, Prince of Peace.'

(Isaiah 9:6 ERV)



Start it

A game of *Follow the star*. Choose someone to be the star and the rest of the group follows them around the room. When the star stops moving, everyone kneels down! Ask if the group knows what today's story might be about today.



Share it

Use the *Wise men come to visit Jesus* handout. Cut out the characters and place them in the middle of the circle as you read the story, stopping to add in characters or ask questions.

I wonder:

- How did the wise men feel when they saw the star stop above the place where Jesus was?
- What did they do when they finally found him?
- Was this an important part of the story?



Sing It

'Isaiah 9:6' (memory verse song) by Quest NC (1:15)

'There are promises' (official kids worship music video) by YancynotNancy (2:08)

'God gave me Jesus' (pre-school worship song) by KidSpring Children's Ministry (1:54)



Action it

Games and activities to reinforce the Bible passage: Love is an Action

- **Make:** Colour and stick the characters from the *Wise men come to visit Jesus* handout on to the final page of the Advent timeline.
- **Play:** Think of what gift you would have given baby Jesus if you were there and ask around the circle. You could use the alphabet to guide your ideas: 'I would give Jesus ... alphabet blocks!'
- **Pray:** On an A4 piece of paper, write out the words 'To ...' at the top, and then at the bottom 'With love from God'. Think together about how Jesus was God's gift to the world. We can choose to accept the gift if we want to, but the gift of Jesus is for everyone. Say to the group that to help us talk to God, they can write their name or draw an image of themselves on the paper. Thank God for the gift of Jesus that is for us all.
- **Try:** Make junk model gifts – they could be covered in craft paper or wrapping paper.