GENESIS TO REVELATION | BIBLE ACCOUNT

Visitors Follow a Star

Matthew 2:1-12



YOUR BIBLE READING

Visitors from far away came to honor Jesus.

Inside: two extended reading pages, a thoughtful reflection, creative activities and a grown-up guide.

AGES 6-10 WITH AN ADULT • 6 COLORFUL A4 PAGES • ENGLISH ONLY

EXTENDED ENGLISH READING • PAGE 1 OF 2

Visitors Searching for a King

Matthew 2:1-12



After Jesus was born in Bethlehem, wise men came from the east to Jerusalem. They had seen a star associated with the birth of the king of the Jews and had come to worship him. Matthew does not tell us how many travelers there were or give their names. Their question places them in the story as seekers: they were looking for the child whose birth the star had led them to consider.

King Herod was troubled by their arrival, and Jerusalem was disturbed with him. He gathered chief priests and teachers of the law to ask where the Messiah was to be born. They pointed to the prophet's words about Bethlehem in Judea. From that place would come a ruler who would shepherd Israel. The visitors' search was now connected with Scripture and with a town whose importance did not depend on its size.

Herod called the wise men secretly and asked when the star had appeared. He sent them to Bethlehem and told them to search carefully for the child. He asked them to return with a report, saying that he too wanted to worship. These were the words he gave them. The passage will soon show that they should not follow his instruction to return, even though he spoke as a king with authority.

The visitors left the king and continued their journey. The star they had seen went ahead until it stood over the place where the child was. They rejoiced with very great joy when they saw it. Their search had moved from their own country to Jerusalem and then toward the child. The account describes joy at the star's guidance without asking us to invent the length of the trip or the animals they used.

Remember: We can honor Jesus with joyful and willing hearts.

EXTENDED ENGLISH READING • PAGE 2 OF 2

Gifts and Another Road Home

Matthew 2:1-12



The wise men entered a house and saw the child with Mary his mother. This is the setting Matthew gives for their visit. It is not described as the same moment when shepherds came to a manger in Luke's account. We can let each scene keep its own details. Here, the travelers who had sought a king arrived at a house and found Jesus with his mother, ready to offer him their worship.

They bowed before the child and opened their treasures. Their gifts were gold, frankincense, and myrrh. Gold is a precious metal; frankincense and myrrh are valuable fragrant substances. Matthew names three kinds of gifts, but that does not tell us the number of people who carried them. The act of giving belonged to their worship. They had come to honor the child and now placed their treasures before him.

Then they were warned in a dream not to return to Herod. The account describes this as God's warning, giving them a different direction from the king's earlier request. They listened. Instead of carrying news back to Jerusalem, they went home to their own country by another route. Their worship was followed by an obedient change of plan. They did not need to complete the return visit simply because Herod had requested it.

The passage ends with that journey home. It does not give us a conversation with Mary, a list of the travelers' later adventures, or the final words they spoke about Jesus. What it has shown is a search, a scriptural direction toward Bethlehem, great joy, gifts, worship, and a warning taken seriously. The visitors came from beyond the child's homeland, yet their journey led them to honor him. Their last action in this scene was to take another road.

Pause and think: What can this journey teach you about paying attention when a wise change of plan is needed?

THINK, NOTICE & GROW

Attention Beyond Familiar Pictures



Many pictures show three crowned visitors riding camels. Those details can be part of an artist's tradition, but Matthew does not state their number, names, or animals. Reading carefully does not spoil the wonder. It helps us see the actual gifts, the house, the star, and the wise men's joy more clearly. We can enjoy a picture while knowing which details come directly from the passage.

The visitors came from the east, beyond Jesus' own homeland. Their presence makes room for people from other places in the story of honoring him. We can practice respect toward people whose language, customs, or home country differs from ours. Listening with curiosity is a better beginning than deciding a stranger has nothing to teach us. Difference need not prevent a shared search for what is true and good.

The travelers also changed their route after a warning. In everyday life, a wise change of plan may be the right choice, especially when safety is involved. Children should discuss troubling warnings or demands with a trusted adult. An earlier request from an important person does not make every later step automatically safe or right.

A SMALL STEP FOR TODAY

The visitors honored Jesus with joyful worship and listened when God directed them along a different way.

What can this journey teach you about paying attention when a wise change of plan is needed?

Read, Remember & Create

Name: _____ Date: _____

1 Think about the reading

1. Where did the visitors find Jesus?

2. Why did they go home another way?

2 Put the ideas in order

Write 1, 2 and 3 for the order these ideas appear in the reading.

- ☐ After a warning, they return home by another road.
- ☐ Wise men ask in Jerusalem about the child.
- ☐ They find Jesus and offer gifts.

3 Draw a meaningful picture

Draw a house, a star, and the visitors' gifts.

Tell someone how your picture connects to the reading.

Read & Grow Together

Read and learn with context

This English edition is designed for ages 6-10 with an adult. Read both extended readings together, or enjoy one each day. Pause at unfamiliar words, invite questions and use the reflection page to connect the story with everyday life. These are retellings and lessons with explanations; read the listed Bible passage for context. Poetry, parables, letters and symbolic visions are identified by type.

Remember this

We can honor Jesus with joyful and willing hearts.
Original memory thought, not a direct Bible quotation. Related passage: Matthew 2:10-11

A thoughtful conversation

Matthew does not give the visitors' number, names, or exact arrival date. It names three kinds of gifts and a house, not a visit to the manger on the birth night.

Activity answers

1. In a house with his mother Mary.
2. God warned them in a dream not to return to Herod.
Sequence boxes, top to bottom: 3, 1, 2. Personal responses and drawings will vary.

Optional prayer

God, help us honor Jesus and listen to your wise guidance. Amen.

Print and share

Each pack has 6 pages. Print on A4 at Actual Size (100%). The worksheet is page 5. You may print just that page, or use the separate 150-page activity book. The collection contains 150 packs in Bible book order, 15 volumes and one ZIP. Catalog pack IDs stay the same when new readings are added.

Sources and sharing

English retellings, lessons, reflections and activities by DigiPick (2026), based on Matthew 2:1-12. Source checked with the public-domain World English Bible. Illustration © Sweet Publishing; 40_Mt_02_01_RG.jpg. CC BY-SA 3.0. Source: unfoldingWord. Resized proportionally, without cropping.
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