CHRISTMAS "RESPECT" (page 1)



BIBLE CONNECTION

Matthew 2:1-12 (pages 1024-1025)

CHARACTER WORD

<u>Respect</u> – A high or special regard; honor one another

TEACHING OBJECTIVE

I show <u>respect</u> for Jesus when I worship Him.

MEMORY LINK

Matthew 2:2b

"For we have seen His star in the East and have come to worship Him."

(KBC Study Bible pg. 1024)

SUPPLIES NEEDED THIS WEEK

GET CONNECTED

Memory Link cards, Hang 10 pages, index cards, pens, highlighters

MEMORY LINK ACTIVITY

Option 1: Ball of yarn Option 2: None

BIBLE CONNECTION

Nativity set

SURF TEAM LEADER

Memory Link cards, Hang 10 pages, index cards, pens

MAKE-IT-STICK REVIEW GAME

Option 1: Jingle bells, cup and plate Option 2: Star shapes

Wise Men Bring Gifts

WHAT'S THE POINT?

For some Beach Club kids, the story of Jesus' birth is something they have heard many times. For others, it is a story they have never heard. This session celebrates Jesus' birth, focusing on the story of the wise men bringing gifts to Jesus and worshiping Him. Kids will learn to show respect for Jesus by worshiping Him like the wise men did. By teaching kids to respect Jesus through worship, they will better understand the real meaning of Christmas.

GET CONNECTED



Building relationships in surf teams; introducing today's lesson

Memory Link cards, Hang 10 pages, index cards, pens, highlighters & wrapped gift

Pass out Memory Link cards, index cards and pens.

Explain that Christmas is on December 25. Guide kids to pass a wrapped gift around the circle as they count down from 25. After saying the number one, direct the kids to shout out "Merry Christmas!" The person holding the box will answer one of the following questions:

- Share one of your family's Christmas traditions.
- What do you know about the Christmas story?
- Why do you think people refer to Jesus as the greatest gift?
- Today's character word is <u>respect</u>. Explain that <u>respect</u> means a high or special regard; to honor one another.



Guide clubbers to locate and mark today's Bible Connection and Memory Link in their Bibles so they can find the pages quickly as directed in the session.

WORSHIP TIME



Pointing hearts toward God

Christmas songs are a great choice for songs at this time of the year. Kids are very familiar with secular Christmas songs but not necessarily familiar with Christian Christmas songs. Make sure to have visuals of the words posted. Also, the song "We Believe" by the Newsboys helps clubbers remember what we believe about Jesus.

MEMORY LINK



2 Minutes – Teaching the Bible verse to clubbers8 Minutes – Activity to help them memorize the verse

No supplies needed

Focus on Today's Memory Link [1]

Let's read Matthew 2:2 from page 1024 in our KBC Study Bibles. Jesus' birth was so special and unique that a star shone brightly in the sky. Today's memory verse was said by wise men who saw the star and followed it. They knew Jesus was special and they showed him <u>respect</u> by worshiping Him. Today, you can show Jesus <u>respect</u> by worshiping Him too.

Option 1 - STAR TOSS ACROSS

Ball of yarn; string, crepe paper or toilet paper also will work

Guide surf teams to stand in a circle. Hand the ball of yarn to one student. That student will hold onto the end of the yarn and toss the ball across the circle to another student while saying the first word of the verse. She will hold onto the yarn, say the second word of the verse and toss to a third student. Continue tossing until the verse is complete and a "star" pattern is formed from the yarn.

When all surf teams have completed the activity, explain that like the stars they created are unique, so was the star that shone in the sky when Jesus was born. Guide all surf teams to say the verse together a few more times before cleaning up the yarn.

Option 2 - WORSHIP: WHENEVER AND WHEREVER

No supplies needed

Explain that the Bible tells many different ways to worship God. State one of the following ways to worship and guide kids to act out that worship method while reciting the verse. Get kids involved by asking them to name additional ways to worship God.

- Walking down a road
- Standing up
- · Raising hands
- · Quietly in prayer
- Kneeling
- Shouting to the Lord
- · Lying in bed
- Singing

CHRISTMAS "RESPECT"

(page 2)

Matthew 2:2b

"For we have seen His star in the East and have come to worship Him."

(KBC Study Bible pg. 1024)

Bible 101 🛄

Today we will hear a story about Jesus' birth. Which part of the Bible should I look in? Yes, the New Testament. And our lesson is from the first book, Matthew. Matthew, Mark, Luke and John are called the gospels and they tell us the story of Jesus' birth, life and death.

BIBLE CONNECTION



CHRISTMAS "RESPECT"

(page 3)

Teaching today's Character Word through a gospel-centered Bible story

Nativity set

Set the Stage

Before Bible Connection, hide the baby Jesus figurine somewhere in the room.

Do any of you have a nativity set in your home? Many homes display nativity sets at Christmas to remind them that Christmas is the celebration of Jesus' birth.

Open your Bible to Matthew 2:1-12 found on page 1024 in your KBC Study Bible. Matthew is the first book of the New Testament and tells stories that happened when Jesus lived on earth. Part of the Christmas story is recorded in the book of Matthew.

Set out the following figurines one at a time and give the following explanation for each one.

Tell the Story

MARY was Jesus' mother. Show the Mary figurine. She was a young girl and Jesus was her very first baby. God spoke to Mary and told her that she had been chosen to be the mother of His Son.

JOSEPH was Jesus' earthly father. Show the Joseph figurine. Mary and Joseph were engaged to be married when Mary told Joseph how God had chosen her to give birth to Jesus. God spoke to Joseph in a dream telling him not to be afraid to take Mary as his wife. They were married and Joseph became an earthly father to Jesus.

When it was almost time for the baby to be born, Joseph and Mary had to make a trip to Bethlehem in order to be counted in the census. Meaning, a time when everyone had to travel back to their hometown to be counted for property and tax purposes. While they were in Bethlehem, the time came for Jesus to be born. There was no room in any of the inns, so Mary gave birth to Jesus in a stable, where ANIMALS lived. Show any animal figurine. Mary laid the newborn baby in a manger, a place where animals eat hay.

On the night Jesus was born, ANGELS appeared in the sky (show the angel figurine) and declared to the SHEPHERDS that Jesus had been born. Show the shepherd figurine. The shepherds found the baby in the stable and worshiped Jesus. The shepherds showed <u>respect</u> for Jesus by worshiping him.

When Jesus was born, God put a special star in the sky that WISE MEN in the east saw. Show the wise men figurines, but place them far away from the other pieces. They were smart, educated men. They saw the star and studied the ancient Hebrew writings, which we know today as the Old Testament books. They knew God placed this special star in the sky because a new King had been born to the Jewish people.

The wise men studied maps and traveled far in search of the newborn King of the Jews. They traveled all the way to Jerusalem and went to the palace of King Herod. Move the wise men figurines a little closer to the others. The wise men respected the king's authority and knew that was the right place to start their search. They asked the king, "Where is He who has been born King of the Jews? For we have seen His star in the East and have come to worship Him."

As You Prepare

Even on a very well-known story, spend time reading the account in God's word. Reread both Matthew and Luke's accounts.

When the king heard this, he was upset. He was the king, not anybody else. The more he thought about it, the angrier he got. He asked all the chief priests and scribes to find out where this baby would be born. They discovered, like the wise men, that the ancient Hebrew writings said the new King would be born in Bethlehem.

King Herod secretly told the wise men that the new King would be born in Bethlehem. He said, "Go and search for the child. When you find Him, bring Him, here so that I may worship Him, too." But King Herod didn't mean it. He didn't respect God at all. He was jealous and wanted to harm the baby so no one else could be king except him. The wise men left and went to Bethlehem to search for the King, still following the special star.

We have all the nativity pieces except one. Which one is missing? (Jesus) The Jesus figurine is hidden somewhere in the room. Like the wise men, let's all search for the baby Jesus. Allow the kids to search for the figurine. When it is found, place all the pieces together.

The star led the wise men to the place where Jesus was. They were overjoyed when they found the child with his mother. They fell down and worshiped Him. They gave gifts of gold, frankincense and myrrh. How did the wise men show respect for Jesus? (worshiping, giving gifts)

When it was time for the wise men to return home, God warned them in a dream not to go back to King Herod, so they traveled home by another route.

Application

Who in the story showed <u>respect</u>? (shepherds, wise men) Who in the story did not show <u>respect</u>? (King Herod) King Herod's selfishness, jealousy and pride are examples of sin. King Herod chose not to listen to God and wanted to do things his own way. All semester we have talked about our sin problem. And every week we say God sent Jesus as the solution to our sin problem. We can be like Herod and refuse to <u>respect</u> God's son, or we can be like the shepherds and the wise men and <u>respect</u> and worship Him.

Gospel Connection

God sent Jesus to earth to pay for all sin and make it possible for you to have a relationship with God. Jesus wants to be your forever friend! When you invite Jesus to become your forever friend, then God makes you one of His children. The Bible says that you must ADMIT that you are a sinner and ask Jesus to forgive your sins. You must BELIEVE that Jesus' sacrifice on the cross paid the price for those sins. Finally, CHOOSE TO FOLLOW Jesus by confessing Him as your Savior and Lord.

Invite children wanting to know more about becoming a Christian to move to the designated counseling area to talk with a leader one on one.

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SURF TEAM TIME

5-10 MINUTES

CHRISTMAS
"RESPECT"
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Connecting with kids in small groups; applying today's Bible Connection and Character Word

Memory Link cards, Hang 10 pages, index cards, pens

Today's Bible Lesson

- Before you begin, ask if there are any clubbers who would like to talk with the Bible connection leader about praying to ask Jesus to become their forever friend. If so, let them go to the designated area.
- What questions do you have about today's story?
- Ask if any have a nativity set at home. Tell them that this week on the Day 5
 of the take-home Hang 10 pages, they will retell the story using a nativity set.
 Help students generate ideas on what to use if they don't have a set at home.

Use the Bible

Review today's Memory Link and Character Word. Guide kids to use cards to mark today's story in their KBC Study Bibles. Lead them to highlight today's Memory Link.

Hang 10 Pages

Give each child a Hang 10 page. Challenge kids to hang out with God 10 minutes each day by praying and reading the Bible, using the Hang 10 page as a guide. Encourage kids to do the Weekly Challenge and bring back their Hang 10 pages next week for a time of discussion.

Look at Day 2 of the Hang 10. Read Matthew 2:1-12 (KBC Study Bible, page 1024-1025) Who can you tell about the star and the wise men? Find someone to tell this story to. It can be a friend, or a brother or sister or a parent.

Prav

Give the kids a few minutes to share their prayer requests or write them on index cards. Ask a child to lead the group in prayer. Take the cards home and remember to pray for the kids in your surf team this week.

Jesus, we thank You that You came from heaven to be born in a stable. The wise men were happy to come and see You. Thank you, God, for the special gift of Jesus and it's in His name we pray, Amen.

Connection Tip

Make sure that you have printed information to send home for Christmas Eve services or other special holiday events. Also, encourage surf team leaders to send their students' families a Christmas card. You can print labels from KOMS. Just ask your Record Keeper or Club Leader. For instructions on how to print mailing labels in KOMS see page 13 of the KiDs Beach Club Leadership Manual Volume 3: Record Keeping Made Easy.

Teaching Tip

Typically, this is your last day of Beach Club for the fall semester. Remind students of the date you will resume in January, as well as the office staff in the school.

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MAKE IT STICK - REVIEW GAME



CHRISTMAS
"RESPECT"

(page 6)

Playing a game to review today's Bible Connection and Character Word

Option 1 - JINGLE BELL TOSS

Two small jingle bells, cup and plate

Guide each surf team to stand in a circle. Place the cup in the middle of the circle. Choose a student to go first and hand them a jingle bell. Once a correct answer is given to a review question, allow them to toss the jingle bell into the cup. If it lands in the cup the team earns a point. Play continues until all questions have been answered or time is called.

Option 2 - FIND THE STAR

Star shapes

Prepare

Write each review question on a star shape. Hide the stars around the room. If you have a large club, you will want to make multiple sets or add more questions.

Explain that today's review questions are hidden on stars around the room. Explain that each surf team is a "wise man caravan." Guide surf teams to stand in a line holding hands or locking elbows. They must search for the stars, but cannot break hands or elbows. When they find a star, they must call out "I SEE THE STAR!" then read the question, answer it and hide it for another surf team to find.

REVIEW QUESTIONS

- 1. What is today's Character Word? (Respect)
- 2. What does <u>respect</u> mean? (Showing high or special regard, honoring one another)
- 3. In what book of the Bible is today's story found? (Matthew)
- 4. Name someone who is part of the Christmas story. (Mary, Joseph, angels, shepherds, wise men, Jesus)
- 5. How did the wise men show <u>respect</u>? (Honoring the king, worshiping Jesus, bringing gifts)
- 6. How does worshiping God show Him <u>respect</u>? (By giving high or special regard to God)
- 7. Give an example of someone kids should <u>respect</u>. (Responses will vary)
- 8. Why is it important to show respect to others? (Responses will vary)
- 9. Recite today's Memory Link. (For we have seen His star in the East and have come to worship Him. Matthew 2:2)
- 10. How can you worship Jesus? (Responses will vary)

"For we have seen His star in the East and have come to worship Him."

Matthew 2:2b

