Epiphany

The light of Christ is for every nation

Ages about 7-11 | Video 4:05 | Group lesson about 25-35 minutes

Central truth The Magi followed the star, worshiped Jesus, and returned home another way after God's warning.

Learning goals Retell the Magi's journey; name their gifts; explain that Christ came for all peoples; and identify a gift of time or service.

Gather Video access, one handout per child, pencils or crayons, and a Bible.

Watch online Open this video on Servus Dei

Before watching | 2 minutes

Ask how a traveler follows a guide. Watch where the star leads the Magi and how they respond when they find Jesus.

Watch and notice

Notice the star, the encounter with Herod, the gifts at the house, and the return by another route.

Talk together | 6-8 minutes

1. What were the Magi seeking?
The newborn king. They followed the star and asked where he could be found.

2. What gifts did they bring?
Gold, frankincense, and myrrh. The reflection connects these gifts with Jesus' kingship, divinity, and saving death.

3. Why did they go home another way?
God warned them in a dream not to return to Herod. His stated wish to worship hid a harmful purpose.

4. What does their visit show about Jesus?
He came for every nation. We can honor him with prayer, time, talents, and loving service.

Then respond and pray Allow 6-8 minutes for a handout or the activity on page 2; finish with the closing prayer.

Lead the response

Epiphany

Short family lesson Watch the video, choose one recall question and one application question, then pray. About 12-18 minutes; the handout is optional.

Choose a handout

Draw & Tell Draw the Magi offering their gifts to Jesus. Then draw a gift of time or service you can offer. Accept an oral explanation.

Read & Write Recall the story, explain its central teaching, then apply it through a specific choice.

Adapt by readiness

Ages 7-8: draw or dictate answers; revisit the named story moment together.

Ages 9-11: explain the connection between the story detail and the planned response.

A journey and a gift | Optional 4 minutes

Draw a path with four stops: Star, Jerusalem, Jesus, and Home Another Way. Add one word describing the Magi's response at each stop. In a gift box at the center write a safe act of service you can offer Jesus by helping someone this week.

Look for understanding Look for the named story details in the answers and a practical response connected to seeking jesus and worshiping with faith.

Closing prayer Jesus, light for every nation, guide us toward you. Help us offer our gifts with love. Amen.

At home Show your journey map to an adult and choose a simple family offering of service.

Handout answer notes Gold, frankincense, myrrh. They were warned not to return to Herod. Accept a specific service action or prayer offered in faith.

Teach with care

Provide paper and pencils. Preview the video and invite children to ask questions or pass. Matthew names three gifts but does not specify three Magi, their names, or camels. Those are traditional images. Gift meanings are Christian interpretation, not words Matthew attributes to the Magi.

Words to explain Epiphany: a revealing or showing forth. Magi: wise visitors from the east. Worship: honoring God with faith and love.

Sources for the leader

Story source: Servus Dei video and English transcript

Background: Matthew 2:1-12: the Magi