

# Christmas Message

# Worshipping Jesus at

# Christmas

## *Act-As-You-Go Three Wise Guys Skit*

*Choose six people to play the following characters. They simply act out the skit as it's read...*

*Characters:*

- *Star*
- *Three Wise Guys*
- *King Herod*
- *One Actor representing Chief Priests and Law Teachers*
- *(Let the rest of the group know they are "the audience" and to be ready to do their parts as mentioned.)*

*(King Herod begins "onstage middle." Wise Guys and Star begin offstage. Actor representing Chief Priests and Law Teachers begins in his seat.)*

The Star began to lead the Wise Guys toward King Herod... and said "This way boys..."

The Wise Guys followed... gangster style... until they were all standing very close to King Herod... Then they asked the king in unison "What's up?... Where's the king of the Jews, Yo?... We saw the star..." And they pointed to the Star...

The Star smiled and waved... then said "I'll go wait outside..." and walked off...

Then King Herod looked really worried... and took two stammering steps back...

Then all Jerusalem (the audience) got really disturbed looks on their faces... and said to each other, "I'm disturbed..."

Then King Herod said in a worried and distracted sort of way "Um... just a minute..." Then he walked a couple steps away... and said quietly like he was trying to keep it a secret from the Wise Guys, "Hey... Chief Priests and Law Teachers... come here..."

And our actor representing the Chief Priests and Teachers of the Law came running over... and said cheerfully "What's up?"

Herod said... "Quite!... They'll hear us..." And pulled the Chief Priests and Law Teachers into a huddle with their backs to the Wise Guys...

Then the Chief Priests and Law Teachers said, "Who will hear us?..."

Then King Herod pointed back over to the Wise Guys and said "those Wise Guys"...

The Wise Guys just stood there looking around like they weren't really paying attention to King Herod...

The star just smiled... and waited outside for the Wise Guys...

Then King Herod turned back to the Chief Priests and Law Teachers... and the King quietly asked the Priests and Teachers "Where is the Christ supposed to be born?..."

Then the audience leaned forward expectantly to the edge of their seats to hear what they would say... and said "I wonder what they'll say..."

Then the Priests and Teachers looked over to see if the Wise Guys were paying attention...  
But Wise Guys just kept standing there looking around...  
So the Priests and Teachers answered quietly, "Bethlehem... That's what the prophet says... Why?..."  
Then King Herod said, "Oh, never mind... bye..." And quickly shewed the Priests and Teachers back to their seat...  
Then the audience, in a I-wonder-what's-going-on way, said "hmmm..."  
Then King Herod casually walked back over to the Wise Guys and asked the Wise Guys in a friendly-and-trying-not-to-sound-too-interested kind of way, "So... when did you see the Star?..."  
The star, overhearing it was being talked about, smiled... and strained to hear what was being said...  
Then, one of the Wise Guys whispered in Herod's ear...  
And King Herod nodded slowly and said "Oh..."  
Then another one of the Wise Guys said "No... that ain't right..." and whispered in Herod's ear...  
Then all three Wise Guys said in unison: "Oh ya, baby... that's right..."  
Then Herod said in a friendly-and-trying-not-to-sound-evil kind of way... "Oh... that's nice..." and said "when you find him... let me know so I can... um... worship him..." Then He walked off and sat down in his seat...  
The Wise Guys looked at each other... shrugged their shoulders... and said, "Cool..."  
Then the Wise Guys said "Hey Star... where ya at?..."  
Then the Star came back over and said, "This way guys... follow me..."  
And the Wise Guys followed the Star... closely... until it suddenly stopped... and pointed down... and said "there He is boys..."  
Then the actors and audience pretended - even though the Star was actually pointing at nothing - that he was pointing to Mary and Jesus...  
Then the three Wise Guys bowed down in front of Jesus... and set a gift in front of Him...  
Then one of the Wise Guys said, "I had a dream!... we shouldn't go back to that King Herod guy..."  
And the other Wise Guys said, "Absotuly!..."  
Then the Wise Guys walked back to their own country (seats)...  
Then the audience spontaneously bust into an exuberant applause... then stopped...

The End.

## *Three Wise Men Visit Jesus (Matt 2:1-12)*

Now let's look at how the story really happened...

**Read Matthew 2:1-12** (while everyone follows along in Bibles.)

**Ask:** Does anyone see anything significant in this passage?

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*Do this "Digging In" section if you have time for a longer lesson; if not, just skip to "Big Points."*

### *Digging In:*

Let's dig into this passage a little bit...

**Ask:**

- Where did it say Jesus was born?
- When does it say the wise men came?

- What sign did the wise men have about His birth?
  - Why did the experts say the Christ would be born in Bethlehem?
  - What passage is that from (look at your Bible notes)?
  - What did the wise men do when they found Jesus?
  - Why did they not go back to Herod afterward?
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## ***Big Points:***

Here are a couple big points I want to focus on today:

- The magi worshipped Jesus.
- And they gave him gifts.

At Christmas, a lot of times we focus on family, having fun, and getting and giving gifts. A lot of that may be just fine. But the magi give us a great example of what a main focus should be.

## ***Application:***

At Christmas we should focus on worshipping Jesus, who it's all about...

Two women who were having lunch in an elegant hotel were approached by a mutual friend who asked the occasion for the meal. One lady replied, "We are celebrating the birth of my baby boy." "But where is he?" inquired the friend. "Oh," said the mother, "you didn't think I'd bring him, did you?" What a picture of the way the world treats Jesus at Christmas. *(Source Unknown. Copied from Sermonillustrations.com on 12/16/2008)*

**Ask:** What are some ways we can focus on worshipping Jesus this Christmas? (Does anyone have any family traditions that focus on Jesus?)  
*(We can thank Him in prayer, read the passages about His birth, wrap a gift to open on Christmas with words inside that say why Jesus' coming was such a great gift, do something or give a gift to help someone in need as a way of sharing Jesus' love, go Christmas caroling to spread the message of hope of Jesus' birth, etc.).*

Obviously, we can worship Jesus anytime - and not just at Christmas.  
But, Christmas is also a good time to focus on and worship Jesus, like the wise men did.

And, just like the wise men gave Jesus gifts, we can give Him a gift, too...  
Give Him the gift of your life and allow Him to use you how He wants.

## ***Prayer***

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