

READ IT

This week's Bible story is

Wise Men

from Matthew 2:1-12.

Through the wise men, Herod learned about the Messiah's birth.

Ask each other what you remember about:

- King Herod
- Observe
- Homage
- Scribe
- Inquired
- Diligent
- Overwhelmed

King Herod was a nasty, bloodthirsty guy who ruled by Roman allowance from 37-4 B.C.E.

Read the whole story together in the Bible!

Spark Story Bible pages 218-223

Spark Bible pages 1058-1059

Family Prayer

Dear Lord, we pray for the magi's wisdom to understand and follow your star. In Jesus' name we pray. Amen.

TALK ABOUT IT



Family Conversations

- 1 How did the wise men find the Baby Jesus?
- 2 In this story, how did people get information?
- 3 In what ways do people get information today? Do we still trust and use the same methods as the people who lived when Herod was king?
- 4 Play a game of Telephone: one person whispers a message in another's ear. That person passes the message on by whispering it to the next person, and so on. When the last person hears the message, s/he repeats it out loud. Is it the same message as it was when the game started?



Eye Spark

Watch for images of stars. Where do they appear? Make an effort to find scientific photographs of stars and remember the Baby Jesus.



Ear Spark

Listen for happy sounds. When you hear them, make a joyful noise yourself.

LIVE IT

For families to do together

Select a craft that will let you make a star for your home. Ideas and directions can be found in books at your public library or online. Work together to make one family star or to help each other make individual stars. When they are complete, display them and remember the miracle of Jesus' birth.

For younger kids

On the next clear night, look out a window or ask permission to go outside and try to count the stars. How high can you count? Are there any special, bright ones?

For older kids

Research stars from the perspectives of both astrology and astronomy. What do they say about stars that is different? What do they say that is the same?