



WEEK 3

ELEMENTARY LESSON GUIDE



BIG IDEA

We can worship Jesus.

THE BIBLE

The Wise Men and Shepherds: Luke 2:8-20;
Matthew 2:1-12; (Luke 4:5-8)

LARGE GROUP TIME

Champions meet in the Youth Room for worship.

WHAT? *What are we talking about today?*

ACTIVITY | We Heart It

- **INSTRUCTIONS:** Give each kid a piece of paper and tell them to cut it into a heart shape (you may need to help your younger students). Tell them to write or draw on the paper something or someone they love. Then, string up all the hearts together to hang up in the room.
- **Have you ever loved something or someone so much that you just couldn't keep that love to yourself? You just had to tell someone else?**
- Sometimes, we just can't keep in something that makes us so happy!

QUESTION | What is Worship?

- **What do you think worship means?**
- Usually we think of worship as singing songs to God and coming to church. But did you know that we can worship God in other ways, too?
- Worship is to love God so deeply that our actions show how much we love God. We worship anytime we choose to live our lives for God. By loving God and loving other people, we are doing our part to tell others about Jesus! Being kind and loving is an act of worship to God.
- **What are some other ways we can worship God in our daily lives outside of church?**



THE BIG IDEA | We can worship Jesus.

- **INSTRUCTIONS:** Write action words on a piece of paper, such as, "EAT," "SMELL," "SPIN," "TICKLE," and finally, "WORSHIP." Tell the kids to choose which word fills in the blank (We can _____ Jesus) best for our Big Idea.
- Today's Big Idea: **We can worship Jesus!**

SO WHAT? Why does it matter to God and to us?

VIDEO | Main Event, Episode 3

- **INSTRUCTIONS:** Play this week's [teaching video](#). ([Main Event Elementary Week 3 on Vimeo](#))

SCRIPTURE | Luke 2:8-20; Matthew 2:1-12

- **INSTRUCTIONS:** Look up the Bible passages and read it to or with your kids.
- The great thing about worshiping Jesus is the wonder! We have an opportunity to look to God and learn so much just by expressing our thankfulness for this life and everything God has given us. Before Jesus was born, there were people who were asked to be the very first to worship God!
- **Can you imagine what that must have been like?**
- Well, the shepherds, who were approached by an angel giving them this news, were afraid. Jesus was talked about for hundreds of years before being born, and the shepherds could hardly believe they were being asked to be a part of this story. But they weren't the only ones who came to worship Jesus!
- Magi, better known as wise men, saw an unusual star and followed it. They knew that it meant that a king was born, so they were wondering what this child would be like, and also decided to bring gifts for the baby.
- The shepherds and wise men adored Jesus and were full of wonder. Jesus' birth was so special because Jesus was the son of God! Finally, Jesus was born and the celebration could begin!

ACTIVITY | Gift to Jesus

- **INSTRUCTIONS:** Tell the kids to write down or draw something special they like about themselves, whether silly or serious. Then, put this piece of paper in a small box and wrap it like a gift.
- Let's promise to give this gift to Jesus every day this week. **In what ways can we use our special gifts to worship Jesus?**

VIDEO | "It's an Avocado. . . Thanks!"

- **INSTRUCTIONS:** Show the kids [this funny video](#) ([it's an avocado.. thanks.. vine](#)) of a little boy unwrapping an avocado as a gift!



MAIN EVENT | WEEK 3 ELEMENTARY LESSON

- Isn't it so nice to see how joyful this little kid was unwrapping that avocado? Maybe you might be thinking, "Oh, man! I would never want an avocado for Christmas!" And I agree, it's an unusual gift.
- But what if you lived in a place where avocados are super rare and expensive? What if your favorite food was avocado?
- Sometimes, when we say that Jesus is the greatest gift we could ever receive, we treat the news like someone just gave us an avocado. Now, Jesus is a MUCH better than an avocado. When we think about Jesus, we have to be filled be joy and thanks!

SCRIPTURE | Luke 4:5-8

- **INSTRUCTIONS:** *Read the Bible passage.*
- There are many things that compete for our attention. Sometimes we spend all our time doing other things that we forget about Jesus.
- No matter how shiny and cool other things may appear, our worship should only go to Jesus! That means letting our love for Jesus guide us in the ways we behave, talk, and spend our time.
- I mean, Jesus came to earth for us. That's super worthy of our worship, don't you think?

NOW WHAT? What does God want us to do about it?

REFLECTION | The Gift that Keeps Giving

- **INSTRUCTIONS:** *Pass out to the kids a piece of paper and something to write with.*
- Jesus is the gift that keeps on giving! Let's take some time now to think about all the good things and people God has given you. Let's write down or draw the things you are thankful for.

ACTIVITY | Let's Celebrate!

- The angels appeared to the shepherds at night time. The wise men followed a star to Bethlehem. I wonder what that was like?
- **INSTRUCTIONS:** *Before group time, [stick glow-in-the-dark stars](#) ([Amazon.com: Great Explorations: Wonder Stars Super Kit, Glow In The Dark Ceiling Stars. 150 Pieces In 4 Sizes Reusable Sizes : Toys & Games](#)) all around your space, including the ceiling. When it's time for this activity, turn off all the lights, and have kids lie down and look up at all the stars. You can choose to give out glow party favors and have a dance party with the kids to some upbeat worship songs afterward!*

PRAYER

- Dear God, we want to worship You! Help us to focus on you no matter what distractions come our way and to never stop being in wonder about just how good You are!



MEMORY VERSE | The Best Gift

- **INSTRUCTIONS:** Write the memory verse and put it in large frame. Then wrap it, complete with ribbons or bows and encourage the kids to unwrap it together. You could make it a challenge by wrapping the large frame in multiple layers of wrapping paper and each kid has to unwrap one layer at a time. Once unwrapped, have all the kids recite the verse together.

SMALL GROUP TIME

DISCUSSION

- Why do you think the shepherds were afraid when the angel appeared to them?
- What news did the angels bring the shepherds?
- How did the wise men know about Jesus?
- Read Luke 4:8. What can we do to worship Jesus in our everyday life?
- How do you think it felt to see Jesus as a baby?
- Why do you think God chose shepherds and wise men to be the first to worship Jesus?
- What are some things that distract us from worshipping Jesus?

ACTIVITY | Gifts for Baby Jesus

- **INSTRUCTIONS:** Distribute this week's printable and something to write/draw with. Have them write or draw in response to the prompt below.
- Pretend you were one of the wise men who came to find Jesus. **What gifts would you have brought baby Jesus?**

MEMORY VERSE | Luke 1:46-47 (NIV)