



WISE MEN

Jesus is the Gift

Gift-giving is one of the joys of Christmas. Even the wise men brought meaningful gifts to Jesus—treasures fit for a king, and practical support for Mary and Joseph during their escape from Herod.

Today, our culture still celebrates what we're good at—our talents, skills, and achievements. Maybe you're great at math, painting, or working with people. Sometimes this focus makes us feel like we have to offer something to Jesus to be accepted.

We think we need to earn His love through talent, effort, or service. But when we feel unworthy or compare ourselves to others, we can begin to pull away—praying less, reading less, even avoiding church.

But the manger tells a different story. Jesus came to be approachable. His name means “God with us.” He desires a relationship, not performance. Of course He enjoys the gifts we bring, but they're not required.

Imagine if a friend expected a gift every time you saw them. That wouldn't feel like a real friendship. Jesus isn't like that. The wisemen gave out of inspiration—not obligation.

This Christmas, remember: Jesus delights in who you are, not what you bring. After all—He is the gift.

Discussion Questions

- **Let's start with the idea that Jesus is a gift.**
 - Why do the Scriptures say Jesus is a gift from God?
 - What does that mean to you personally?
 - *(Leader tip: If someone needs help getting started, you can remind them that John 3:16 says "God so loved the world that He gave...")*
- **We all have different gifts and talents.**
 - What is something you believe you're gifted at or something you enjoy doing?
 - (Examples: music, drawing, helping others, sports, fixing things, making people laugh.)
 - How could you use that gift to honor God or serve others?
 - *(Leader tip: Be ready to encourage each person's answer—some may be shy about naming their strengths.)*
- **Let's imagine we were one of the wise men.**
 - What kind of gift would you want to bring to Jesus and why?
 - (It could be something meaningful, funny, creative, or even symbolic.)
 - How can our Christmas gift-giving help remind us that Jesus is the greatest gift of all?
- **The wise men gave Jesus gold, frankincense, and myrrh.**
 - Why do you think they brought gifts at all?
 - What do you think those gifts said about how they saw Jesus?

Activity: My Gift, God's Glory

Wrap a Gift for Jesus

Supplies:

A small personal item from home, wrapping paper or fabric, tape, ribbon, gift tag

Instructions:

- Invite each person to find something they own that feels special to them. Don't tell anyone what it is yet!
- Spend time wrapping the item thoughtfully—use whatever materials you have to make it beautiful.
- Write a gift tag: *"To: Jesus. From: [Your Name]"*
- Place the gift under the tree. On Christmas morning (before opening presents), gather as a family and unwrap your Jesus gifts together.
- When it's your turn, explain:
 - *"If I could give this to Jesus, here's why I would..."*

Wrap-Up Thought:

Close with a prayer, thanking Jesus for being the greatest gift and offering your hearts to Him this Christmas.

“I Am the Gift” Ornament – My Gift, God’s Glory

Supplies:

Printable ornament template (bulb-shaped), markers or crayons, scissors, string or ribbon (optional)

Instructions:

1. Decorate the Front:

- Write: *“I am the gift Jesus wants.”*
- Add your name and drawings or symbols that represent you—like stars, hearts, tools, music notes, etc.

2. Complete the Back:

- Write: *“One way I can offer myself to Jesus this Christmas is...”*
- Add something you’re good at or love to do (e.g., “I’m good at encouraging people,” “I love helping my family”).
- Then finish the thought: *“God, I give this gift back to You for Your glory.”*

3. Display It:

- Hang your ornament on the Christmas tree, near your nativity, or on a string across the room to remind your family that we are all part of God’s plan.

Reflection Prompts:

- *Why do you think Jesus wants **us** more than anything else?*
- *How can your gifts make a difference in someone’s life this Christmas?*

