

Extra Extra!—A Devotional about Jesus' Birth!

DAY 1

Read Matthew 2:11 NIrV

"The Wise Men went to the house. There they saw the child with his mother Mary. They bowed down and worshiped him. Then they opened their treasures. They gave him gold, frankincense and myrrh."

The wise men followed a star and found Jesus. They bowed, worshiped, and gave treasures. Their visit shouts a message: you can celebrate Jesus any day, not just at Christmas. January snow, spring rain, summer sunshine, and autumn leaves are all great times to worship Jesus. Jesus never leaves, so praise never has to pause. Use your words, "Thank You, Jesus," before lunch. Use your heart, choose kindness on the playground. Use your hands to help at home without being asked. Every act is another way to honor Jesus. Tomorrow, pick another. Keep going and you'll have a year-long party! When friends wonder why you have joy, point them to Jesus, the greatest King. Celebrate Jesus all year long.

Draw inside the rectangle one way you'll celebrate Jesus today. It could be worship, helping, or praying!

DAY 2

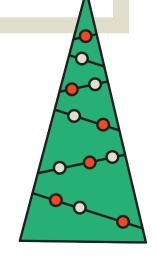
Read Matthew 2:10 NIrV

"When they saw the star, they were filled with joy."

The wise men's journey was long...sand, sun, maybe sore feet! Yet when the star stopped over Jesus, you can be sure the wise men got so much joy! Finding Jesus turned a normal night into a party that never ends. Christmas lights come down, but Jesus' light keeps shining every day. Do you want to celebrate Jesus all year? Keep your eyes on Jesus. Every day. Every time you notice something good, sunrise colors, or an answered prayer, say, "Thank You, Jesus!" You can celebrate Jesus every single day. Not just Christmas morning. And that's an amazing thing!

Decorate a small jar with star stickers.
Cut twelve paper strips for the months.
On each strip, write one way to celebrate
Jesus (sing, serve, pray, etc.). Fold and
place them in the jar. Pull the month's strip
as a reminder to celebrate Jesus all year
long.





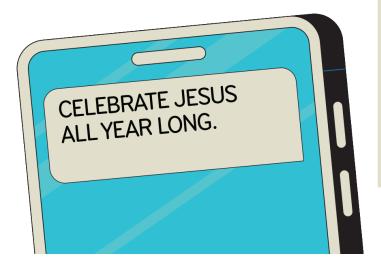
DAY 3

Read John 8:12 NIrV

"Jesus spoke to the people again. He said, 'I am the light of the world. Anyone who follows me will never walk in darkness. They will have that light. They will have life."

Think about times when life feels dark. Maybe it's arguing with a friend, waking up from a scary dream, or things are difficult at home. Jesus' light still shines in those moments. He promises to stay with you and help you make things right. When you choose to tell the truth, share toys, or say you're sorry, you are walking in His light and helping others see it, too.

You don't need to travel across a desert or ride a camel to find Jesus. You can talk to Jesus. Every good thing is like a spark reminding you that Jesus is near. Stop, thank Him right away, and ask how you can shine that light for someone else. His light always wins, even on the very darkest night.



DAY 4

Read Matthew 2:12 NIrV

"But God warned them in a dream not to go back to Herod. So they returned to their country on a different road."

The wise men didn't stay in Bethlehem forever. After worshiping Jesus, they packed up their camels and headed home on a brand new road. Meeting Jesus changed their lives.

Christmas ends, trees come down, lights get boxed, and school bells ring again, but Jesus goes with us just like He went with the wise men. You can worship Jesus all the time! When math gets hard, worship Jesus. When you are practicing baseball, you can worship and celebrate Jesus. When you're on summer road trips, worship Jesus!

Grab a calendar. Circle one day each month. On those days, plan a special Thank You to God: write a verse, draw a picture, or give away a toy on that day. Twelve circles, twelve mini parties!

"Dear Jesus, thank You for coming to rescue me. Help me find fun ways to celebrate You in every season, sunny, snowy, busy, or quiet. Let my words and choices glorify You. I love You. Amen."