



WISE KIDS SEEK HIM – A 4-Week Series

LESSON TWO: WISE KIDS FIND JESUS



The *it*

The *it* of the lesson is that ONE THING you say over and over so they understand it. If their parents ask, “What did you learn at church?”, you want them to answer with the *it* of your lesson. If YOU ask the kids, “What am I trying to get you to learn/understand?” and they answer with this phrase, you can say, “That’s *it*!”

THE *it* THIS WEEK IS: Wise Kids Find Jesus

Things you might need for this lesson:

FIND/GATHER/BUY:

- Jesus toy figure
- Baskets and plastic ornaments
- Envelope and scissors
- Blindfold and candy bar

FROM DOWNLOADS:

- Images for your display screen
- Print: Take home papers for the kids
- Print out Jesus figure if needed



INTRO *it* Get the kids curious about *it*

Whyit (Pronounced Wyatt)

Jesus is Lost!

Needed: Baby Jesus figure from nativity or Jesus action figure (or use the print out)

Preparation: Hide it somewhere in the room

Whyit comes out and is very upset because he has lost Jesus! He is all worked up because you can't have Christmas without Christ! It would just be “MAS!” Whyit says the lesson is about the Wise Men finding Jesus, but Jesus is lost and the entire lesson ruined! Have the kids help look around the room, and whoever finds Jesus brings it up. Leader explains that we aren't talking about the Jesus action figure/toy, but the REAL Jesus. He isn't lost, but people need to find Him. Why does He need to be found if he isn't lost? Well, it's the people who have lost HIM. He knows right where He is!

PLAY *it* A Game that demonstrates *it*



Bible Baskets Toss (Class Bozo Buckets)

PREPARATION: Collect some baskets. You'll need two sets of at least five but no more than ten. If you don't have enough, you can use one set and take turns rather than head-to-head game. You'll also need something to toss. Plastic Christmas ornaments are ideal, but you can use anything to toss into them: bean bags, balls, etc. They will need one basket or bin at the starting line just to hold the tossing objects.

PLAYING: Set up the baskets in a row, with a few inches between them. If you do two sets, have them five feet apart. Kids come up and try to toss the ornaments into the baskets in order. The first basket is right at their feet – easy! But each one gets more difficult. They must do them in order, so if they have done the first three, but miss four and it goes into the fifth basket, remove it. They have to get one in basket four before tossing to basket five. The goal is to be the first to get into every basket. If you aren't running a head-to-head match, you can time them instead to see who gets the quickest time! There is no limit on tosses, so have plenty to toss, or just return the missed tosses to them.

THE POINT: God has a plan for our life, but we have to live it in order. Sometimes we want to skip ahead and enjoy things before the time is right. Start simple, start close, and then as life goes on, God will have more and more challenging adventures for you. That's why wise kids find Jesus. He has a great life in store for everyone who follows him!

OPTIONAL GAME available on Kidology.org - Place Jesus in the Manger
Visit [Kidology.org/placejesusinmanger](https://www.kidology.org/placejesusinmanger) to learn more and download the game.

WATCH *it* A video that sets *it* up



PREP: Video included in your Download

The screen shot to the right is also included in your Download to put on screen before playing video.

In this episode, Moe Camel is back and talks about how the Wisemen were not actually in the manger scene like we often see depicted. It took them several years to get to Jesus and He was a toddler by then. He encourages them to move the Wisemen at home away from the Nativity scene! He talks about the Wisemen meeting King Herod and leaving a different way. He then talks about how Jesus lived as a kid, so He understands what kids go through. He is Immanuel, "God with us."





POWER TIP: Don't introduce a drama. As soon as the preceding lesson element is complete, whether it is the WATCH IT video or you do something else, the actor should just come out, IN CHARACTER, and just start talking to the children. *This captures their attention!*

FIRST PERSON DRAMA: Studious Megasmartious, the Wise Dude Matthew 2:1-10

PREPARATION: Choose a leader (or puppet) to dress up as a Wise Dude.

PRESENTATION: Last week, the story ended with the Wisemen just arriving at the stable. But this week Stu backs up a little to talk about how long it took them to follow the star and find Bethlehem, a little town – more of a village – on the outskirts of Jerusalem, the capital city of Israel. They figured they'd better check in with the authorities, and as they asked about the location of a baby king that was born, they soon found themselves in the presence of King Herod – a king appointed by the Roman Empire to keep the peace in Israel. He was not a good man, and in character, describe how he seemed a little "off" and while what he said seemed OK, it was how he said it. He acted delighted to hear about a baby king, but it was pretty clear he wasn't as he said, "When you find him, come report to me, so I may come and worship Him, too!" Next describe their arrival at the humble home of a young couple named Mary and Joseph and the little boy who was crawling around the floor playing. You can remind the kids (in character) that they arrived too late to actually see the stable and manger, but Mary and Joseph told them all about it. Describe how sleep that night was uneasy. The wind was blowing through the cracks, it was cold, and somehow, they all had the same dream telling them to leave town in secret and sneak out without reporting back to that mean King Herod. God made it clear Herod was not too happy to hear about a baby king being born, so it was best to sneak away. Go ahead and mention that when Herod started looking for young Jesus, God also told Mary and Joseph to flee, and they moved to Egypt for a few years until they heard that King Herod had died and their little boy was now safe.

End with, "Oh, wait! I meant to tell you about the amazing gifts we brought... Nevermind. I'll tell ya all about that next week! Gotta go, I'm off to my friend's house. He needs help with his homework - not finishing it, but coming up with some bonus homework assignments just for fun! I know y'all probably do that, too. You can never have too much homework! It's so fun!"

...TO BE CONTINUED NEXT WEEK!

TEACH *it* The main points about *it*



The Wisemen were looking for truth, and when they found **it**, they went in search of it, and they FOUND Jesus! Today we want to talk about how Wise Kids Find Jesus!

How did they do it? How did they find a child, in another country, far away, hidden away in a house somewhere, when they didn't even know his name? Of course! They followed the star! How do you find Jesus?

Follow the STAR:

- S – Seek Truth
- T – Test everything
- A – Admit when you are wrong
- R – Repent and follow God

Hand Motions:

- Hands like binoculars up at your eyes
- Point to your head like you are thinking
- Hands out, palms up, look up
- Spin around and then point up!

SEEK TRUTH – Wise kids want to discover truth. They learn from leaders, they read the Bible and other books, watch helpful videos (not just funny ones), and ask lots of questions.

TEST EVERYTHING – When you hear things, don't just believe it without looking into it. See what the Bible says. Ask parents, leaders and friends.

ADMIT YOU ARE WRONG – We can't find Jesus until we are ready to admit that we have sinned, meaning we've done wrong things or disobeyed God.

REPENT and FOLLOW GOD – To repent literally means "to turn around and go the other way." When God helps us understand that we were going in the wrong direction or doing something wrong – it's not enough to just say "I'm sorry" and keep doing it. We need to turn around and go the other way. Repenting is saying, "I'm no longer going my own way. I'm going to go God's way instead."

REVIEW: What does S.T.A.R. remind us we need to do? Review with hand motions.

SHOW *it* An object lesson or activity that illustrates *it*



A Magical Object Lesson – Destroyed and Restored!

NEEDED: An envelope, scissors and a little bit of practice.

PREPARATION: Cut a slit in the envelope on the back just long enough for a folded piece of paper to slip through but below the opening, so when you place the folded paper inside, it looks like it is clearly being placed IN the envelope, but it goes inside and then out the slit and into your hand. Seal the envelope and fold it backwards in half concealing the slit. Continue folding it. You can then destroy the envelope by tearing it up or even burning it in a pan if you can do so safely in your environment.

PRESENTATION: Take a piece of paper and write your name on it and fold it up. (Or choose a volunteer and write their name on the paper.) Place it into the envelope while carefully sliding it out of the slit and into the palm of your hand. When you reach into a box or under a table to get your Bible, have the Bible open, drop the slip into the Bible, close the Bible, and then bring the Bible out to talk about what the Bible teaches about sin. The kids will think the slip of paper is in the envelope. You then talk about how the world destroys lives. A lot of people say you can live any way you want, that God just wants to spoil your fun! As you give examples of things that destroy lives, tear up or otherwise destroy the envelope! After it is completely destroyed, talk about how that is not God's plan for your life! Show the Bible and talk about how the Bible was given to help us live a wonderful life. "Everything the Bible tells us not to do will harm us. Everything the Bible tells us to do will make our life better." God has a plan for our life, and Wise Kids not only Seek Truth, but they Find Jesus! Now, open the Bible to reveal the paper "saved" within the Bible as the Bible tells us how we can be saved.

THE POINT: All of us have sinned, all of us need to be rescued. When we Find Jesus, and give our life to Him, he saves us and restores to us the life He created for us to live!

OPTIONAL GOSPEL ILLUSTRATION on Kidology.org – The POP Quiz! Kidology.org/thePOPquiz

FIND it Bible verses that help unpack it



Have the children get their Bibles out and race to find these verses.

Encourage all the kids to look up the verses. After a student reads it, put it up on the screen and read it together. Briefly discuss the passage and explain it as it relates to the lesson.

John 3:16-18

For God so loved the world, that he gave his only Son, that whoever **believes in him** should not perish but have eternal life. For God did not send his Son into the world to condemn the world, but in order that the world might be **saved through him**. Whoever believes in him is not condemned, but whoever does not believe is condemned already, because he has not believed in the name of the only Son of God.

John 5:24

"Truly, truly, I say to you, whoever **hears my word and believes him** who sent me has eternal life. He does not come into judgment but has passed from death to life."

Romans 10:9-10 "That if you confess with your mouth, "Jesus is Lord," and believe in your heart that God raised him from the dead, you will be saved. For it is with your heart that you believe and are justified, and it is with your mouth that you confess and are saved."

HIDE it The unit scripture that kids will memorize to hide **it** in their hearts



This is the THEME VERSE

Challenge the kids to memorize this verse during this series. You may want to have a fun prize or treat for the kids who memorize it!

Hebrews 11:6

And without faith it is impossible to please God, because anyone who comes to him must believe that he exists and that he rewards those who earnestly seek him.

FOCUS THIS WEEK: What does it mean to “Please God?”

We love when a parent or a teacher says, “I’m proud of you!” It means they see the good we are doing, and it makes them feel good, too!

OPTIONAL ILLUSTRATION:

NEEDED: A blind fold and a candy bar.

PRESENTATION: Invite a child up on stage, and blindfold them. Give them instructions to walk around the room, leading them to a candy bar you have placed somewhere. Help them find it. When they do, let them know you are proud of them. Because they trusted you and followed your instructions, they were rewarded! We are rewarded too when we trust God and follow His instructions. When Wise Kids Find Jesus, they find a lot more, too. They find the rewards God has for them when they please Him.

THE POINT: Sometimes you’ll hear the phrase “blind faith” as though we follow God blindly. Faith isn’t blind. Faith is listening and obeying Jesus when you can’t see what, why, or where, knowing that He rewards those who earnestly seek Him. (Hebrews 1:6)

LIVE it The practical life application challenge so the kids can live **it** this week!



Look for Jesus this week! (*Literally and Figuratively!*)

Challenge kids and their families to do ‘JESUS SPOTTINGS’ – whenever they see a figure of Jesus is 25 points, but whenever they can point out Jesus at work, that is worth 50 points! They can have a contest in their family to see who can “Spot Jesus” the most this week!

Be sure to communicate with parents about this challenge. The kids will enjoy it all week long!



TAKE it Take home tool to help parents review **it** with the kids.

PREP: Included in your download. Use as paper and/or digital tool.

The TAKE IT tool can be printed and given to the kids, or provided digitally, either in an email to parents or posted to your church's website or social media.



LOOKING AHEAD

Here are the upcoming lesson topics:

Lesson 3: Wise Kids Are Generous

Lesson 4: Wise Kids Worship Jesus

BONUS IDEAS!



it is always growing and adding NEW IDEAS!

Be sure you are a member of the **Kidology.org Facebook Group** so you don't miss out on [BONUS IDEAS](#) or [COACHING VIDEOS](#) that Pastor Karl or Doug often post to help make your Sunday Experience the best it can be! If they get new ideas, they will share them! AND if YOU come up with a great idea for this lesson, you can share it, too!

VISIT OR JOIN AT: [Facebook.com/groups/kidologyorg](https://www.facebook.com/groups/kidologyorg)