



Unit 2, Lesson 7

## TODAY'S BIBLE STORY: THE MAGI AND THE FLIGHT TO EGYPT MATTHEW 2

### THE STORY HOME

Today's story is a breathless read about risk and flight to freedom (Matthew 2) by trusting God. The wise men follow a bright star in search of Jesus, "King of the Jews." When they find Him they present valuable and costly gifts and joyfully worship Him; they "get it" about Jesus becoming a spiritual leader. Old and wicked, King Herod doesn't "get it" and sees any baby boy as a potential rival to his leadership. The wise men—magi—trust God's warning to sidestep Herod and they take another route home. Joseph, Jesus' dad, dreams of an angel warning the family to get out of town. The family flees to Egypt to dodge jealous King Herod, who is angry and orders the killing of all baby boys in and around Bethlehem. Though Herod won't live long enough for any new-born male to grown up and take his place, he still kills the baby boys. Fortunately, Joseph listens to and trusts the voice of God. After Herod dies, Jesus and His family return to Nazareth, which becomes His home town.

#### PARENTS & KIDS QUESTIONS:

- Have you ever tried to explain a truth or how you feel and the other person just doesn't "get it"?
- Explain what you think is a valuable gift. Does it depend on the price you pay?
- Jesus is a spiritual leader. Name some of our leaders in the home, church, school, or government.
- Can you obey a human leader—or a boss—and obey God if they each want different things?

### TOGETHER HOME

Trusting God begins with trusting parents. Encourage your child to believe that you want the best for him or her. Talk about ways to trust each other and how that builds a strong, close family. Use a swing as an example by asking your children if they trust the swing to hold their weight. With young tots, play games where they jump off a step or a poolside into your waiting arms. With older children, play a game where they fall backward and you catch them. Explain that once trust is broken, it's nearly impossible to rebuild it to the same degree it once was.

### BIBLE MEMORY HOME

"Today in the town of David a Savior has been born to you; he is the Messiah, the Lord" (Luke 2:11) is a reason to celebrate but, it includes a risk. Then and today, not everyone recognized Jesus as the Messiah and some were jealous of or doubted Him. Each morning, when the day is fresh, repeat together this verse. It'll remind your family that God has given us the greatest gift—Jesus—and He is with us always and ever, even throughout this day.

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NT Unit 2, Lesson 7, Take-home