

Ages 5-6

Matthew 2:1–12

Invitation to Prayer

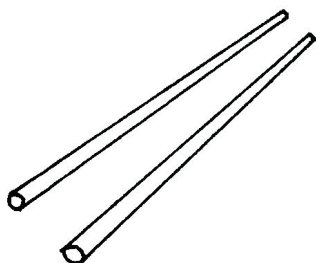
In the name of the Father, and of the Son, and of the Holy Spirit. Amen.

Listening

GIFTS



GOLD



FRANKINCENSE



MYRRH

Loving

Draw a picture of one gift you would like to give to Jesus.

Count the gifts that the kings brought to the baby Jesus. Write the number of gifts.

Prayer

Thank you God for making me special.

Living

- Color the picture and name the gifts from the kings to Jesus. Hang the picture on the refrigerator or in your room to remind you about giving gifts to those you like.
- Pick a Christmas card from those your family received and pray for that family this week.

Ages 7-8

Matthew 2:1–12

Invitation to Prayer

In the name of the Father, and of the Son, and of the Holy Spirit. Amen.

Listening

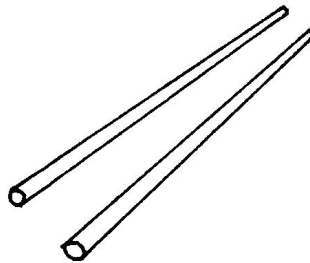
...and on entering the house they saw the child with Mary his mother. They prostrated themselves and did him homage. Then they opened their treasures and offered him gifts of gold, frankincense, and myrrh.

Matthew 2:11

Loving



GOLD



FRANKINCENSE



MYRRH

- **Gold** is a very valuable metal. Name a valuable gift you would like to give to Jesus.
- **Frankincense** is a sweet smelling fragrance. Name a smell that reminds you of Christmas.
- **Myrrh** is a healing oil. Name someone who needs a kind word or healing touch this year.
- **Peace** is a gift from Jesus to each of us. Exchange a Sign of Peace with each other.

Ages 7-8

Matthew 2:1–12

Living

- Color the picture and name the gifts from the kings to Jesus. Hang the picture on the refrigerator or in your room to remind you to be thankful for the gifts you received this Christmas.
- Pick a Christmas card from those your family received and pray for that family this week.
- Make up a prayer to thank God for all his gifts to you.

Ages 9-11

Matthew 2:1–12

Invitation to Prayer

In the name of the Father, and of the Son, and of the Holy Spirit. Amen.

Listening

On entering the house they saw the child with Mary his mother; and they knelt down and paid him homage. Then, opening their treasure chests, they offered him gifts of gold, frankincense and myrrh.

Matthew 2:11

Loving

Imagine you are a reporter for your school newsletter and are writing about this Gospel scene. Ask the three kings about their journey to the Christ Child. Ask Mary what she will do with these special gifts to her son.

Reflect on how you pay homage to God the Father, the Son, and the Holy Spirit.

Living

- Discuss with a member of your family the gifts you received at Christmas. Are any of them as valuable as gold, as healing as the jar of myrrh, as sweet smelling as the incense? How will you use your gifts to remain close together as a family and grow closer to Jesus?
- Each day this week, take a Christmas card from those you received and pray for that family.

Discuss three actions you can take this week to be closer to your family and closer to God.

Ages 12-14

Matthew 2:1–12

Invitation to Prayer

In the name of the Father, and of the Son, and of the Holy Spirit. Amen.

Listening

On entering the house, they saw the child with Mary his mother; and they knelt down and paid him homage. Then, opening their treasure chests, they offered him gifts of gold, frankincense and myrrh.

Matthew 2:11

Loving

Imagine you are a reporter for your local television station and are doing an on-the-scene spot about this Gospel scene. Interview the three kings about their journey to the Christ Child. Interview Mary and Joseph about all the attention their baby is getting. Ask Mary and Joseph what they will do with these special gifts to their son.

Then imagine you are doing a follow-up interview with your family. Ask them if they have heard the story about Jesus' birth. Has the story influenced how their family cares for each other? Do they give valuable gifts to each other? Are they grateful for these gifts?

Living

Interview a member of your family about the gifts they received at Christmas. Are any of them as valuable as gold, as healing as the jar of myrrh, as sweet smelling as the incense? How will they use the gifts to remain close together as a family and grow closer to Jesus?

Each day this week pray for a family that sent you a Christmas card.

Discuss three actions you can take to be closer to your family and closer to God.