



## Giving and Hoping

# The Wise Men

The story of the wise men traditionally sits alongside the Christmas story although it is separate and probably happened years later. It tells of the humility of people of status and that they too have gifts to offer.

### Welcome

- Are expensive gifts of greater value?
- How do you decide how much to spend on Christmas gifts?

### Word:

Matthew 2:1-12

In the time of King Herod, after Jesus was born in Bethlehem of Judea, wise men from the East came to Jerusalem, asking, 'Where is the child who has been born king of the Jews? For we observed his star at its rising, and have come to pay him homage.'

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.



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# The Wise men

### Word (Cntd)

- The gifts of the magi are significant and tell us of their view of the Christ child. What would their modern equivalents be?
- Why is the giving of gifts so important to us, especially at Christmas?
- Are we better givers or receivers?
- How do we respond to all that God gives to us?



### Worship

Give thanks to our generous God for all His gifts. Help us to value what we cannot measure and not to measure what we value

### Witness

Can you 'pass it forward' this week?

### Hymns:

As With Gladness Men of Old

Let All Mortal Flesh Keep Silence