

## Activities:

Show children a box of small prizes with several layers of wrapping paper around it. Play several lightning speed rounds of Simon Says, musical chairs or tossing a ball back and forth. Each time someone is the last one left, they get to unwrap just one layer. Once all of the wrapping is removed, have the final child pass out the prizes to the group. Explain that this is what it must have felt like for those people following God's prophecies about the Messiah. Each prophecy got them a little closer to understanding who He is, but it still took a lot of patience in between each message.

Have a course set down on floor in masking tape. Each child takes a turn using a folder as a blinder to hold below their chin so they can only look up. Dangle a toy or paper star from a string to lead them along the course.

Play follow the leader, where the leader is the star, and everyone following is one of the wisemen. The leader can hide the baby doll somewhere while everyone closes their eyes, and then has to lead them (eventually) to it.

***UPPER***

***ELEMENTARY***

## Activities:

How did Herod react to hearing God had sent a new King? (angry, jealous) How should we act when God is preparing someone else to do something we wanted to do? (accept God's will, be supportive) Did Herod show obedience to God? (no) Who did? (the wisemen, Joseph) Have children name situations where someone else gets something they want (winning a game, having a certain toy, etc.) Children can act out the jealous response (being over the top and silly), then talk about how to respond in obedience to God, rather than in jealousy.

Ask everyone to get up and do several motions (touch toes, reach up, hop on one foot, etc.) Did you know why I asked you to do those things? Did you obey anyway? We don't know if the wise men knew why they weren't supposed to return to Herod. But we do know that they obeyed. God told Joseph and Mary to take Jesus and hide for a while in Egypt. Sometimes confronting a bully right away isn't a safe idea. We need to pray and think before taking action when it is a matter of safety. Sometimes we need to take a stand on things, but other times, it is good to walk away.

# WISEMEN

**NAME:** \_\_\_\_\_

B	R	H	P	E	S	O	J	N	F
E	F	A	Z	X	C	V	B	M	R
T	W	I	S	E	M	E	N	L	A
H	V	S	T	D	F	G	H	K	N
L	B	O	A	P	L	K	J	J	K
E	M	Y	R	R	H	Y	T	H	I
H	A	I	U	J	E	S	U	S	N
E	R	A	S	D	R	F	G	H	C
M	Y	Q	W	H	O	U	S	E	E
M	N	G	O	L	D	W	E	R	N
J	E	R	U	S	A	L	E	M	S
K	L	P	O	I	U	Y	T	R	E

WISEMEN

STAR

HEROD

BETHLEHEM

JERUSALEM

JESUS

MARY

JOSEPH

GOLD

FRANKINCENSE

MYRRH

HOUSE

# **Lower Elementary**

# Wisemen

Name: \_\_\_\_\_

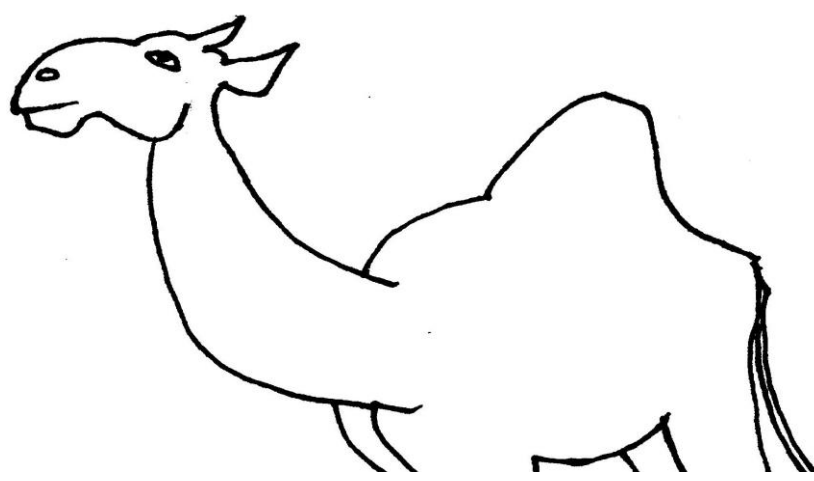
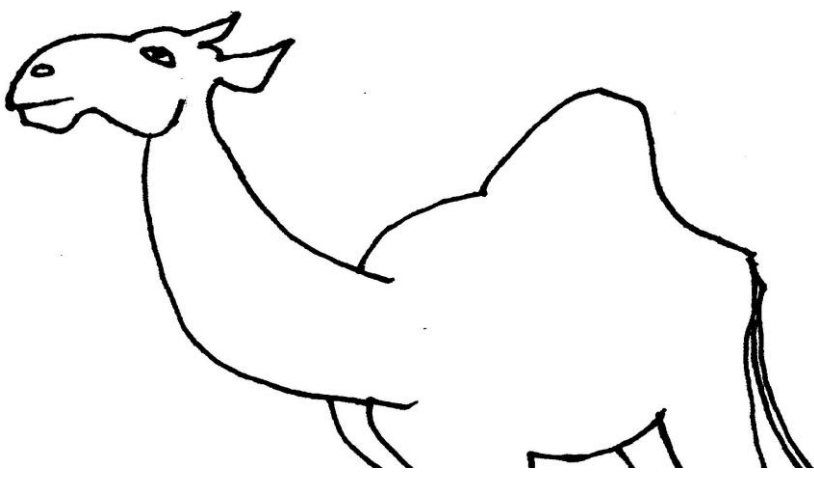
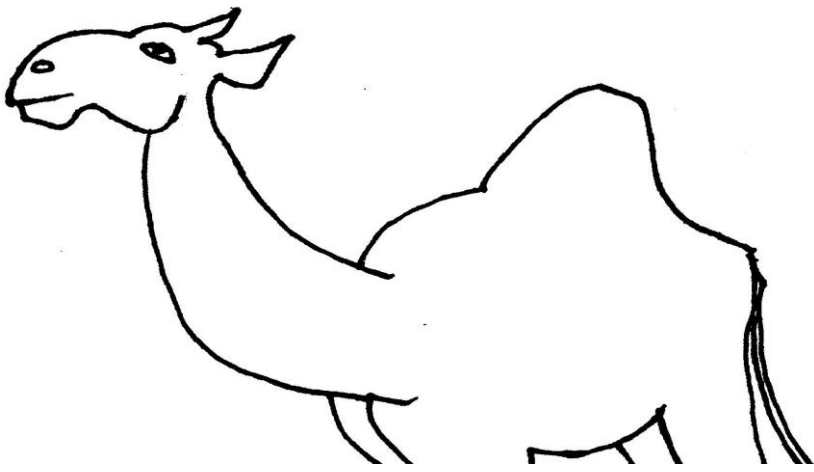


**When the wise men saw the star, they were filled with joy. ~ Matthew 2:10**

# Craft

- ❖ Children color and cut out camels and wise men
- ❖ Children glue wise men on camels' humps
- ❖ Children add clothespins to bottom of camels to make legs







**Preschool**

**Coloring Page:**

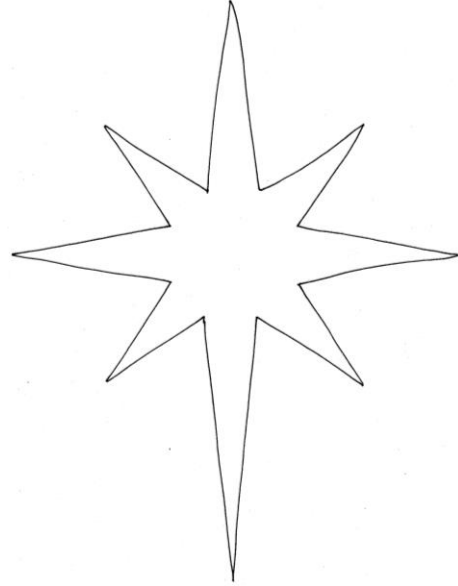
**Encourage children to draw themselves following the star.**

**Modeling dough:**

**Encourage children to make something from the story, like a present, baby Jesus or the star.**

# Wisemen

Name: \_\_\_\_\_



**I will follow Jesus.**