

Sunday Club – 3rd January 2021

The following is one way of delivering this session with children. This week we explore where to look for the direction God has for our lives.

Opening activity

Talk together about the different methods people use to find their way, e.g. maps, satnavs, signposts, and when they might use them.

Discuss whether some are better than others. Ask your child(ren) if they remember a time they have been lost. What did it feel like? How did they find help?

Opening prayer – Faithful God.

Faithful God,
we pray for those searching for love
in the darkness of trouble;
for those searching for hope in their despair;
for those searching for reassurance in their confusion.
Meet them and surround them with your strength.
Amen.

Open the Word: Open the Bible at **Matthew 2.1-12**

The account of the wise men involves searching – initially by looking in the wrong place – for the new-born king. They eventually find him by following the star to Bethlehem. God's guidance in a dream warns them to take a different route home.

[Matthew 2.1-12 ICB - Wise Men Come to Visit Jesus - Jesus - Bible Gateway](#)

You will need: headdresses or costumes for: Herod, star, wise men.

Invite your child(ren) to dress up either as Herod, the star or a wise man.

As the story is read, ask the wise men to move around the room. Encourage Herod and the star to come and make the wise men change direction at the correct points in the story.

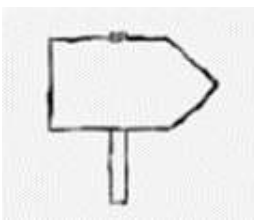
Pause after they have given their gifts ask them what makes the wise men change direction for the last time.

Talk together:

- What does it feel like when you're searching for something?
- When might you ask God to help you find the right way?
- How could you 'search' for the direction God has for you this week?

Craft Activity – Make a Reminder

You will need: A4 card, scissors, glue and colouring pens/pencils.



Ask your child(ren) to cut out the shape of a signpost by cutting a strip along the short edge of the card to form a handle and then cut off the corners at one of the ends. Glue the handle to the sign as shown.

Write 'Go' on one side of the sign and 'Search' on the other. Invite them to decorate the rest of the signpost.

Discuss that the wise men followed a star, so we might follow a sign but sometimes it might not always be as easy as that to find the direction God has for our lives. Invite the children to keep the stick as a reminder to look for signs of God this week.

Praise Song: Ask, Seek, Knock | Children's Worship Song - IMYC Staff

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=Wlkb7Syjqll>

Sing and dance along!

Go with God

Consider together what you have explored, what that means for each of you and how it might influence your daily lives.

- Invite your child(ren) to consider something they would like God's direction for e.g. making a decision, a relationship, or something in school.
- Ask them to walk from one end of the room to the other, and as they turn around ask God to go with them this week and help them find direction.

Closing Prayer:

We thank you, loving God,
that when we search for you in the world,
we find you in beauty, kindness and love.
When we search for you at church,
we find you in the Bible, activities and music.
When we search for you in our lives,
we find you in our hearts.

Amen

Other ideas for family worship:

An alternative is provided by Hull minster (Matthew 2.1-12)

<https://hullminster.org/family-resources>

Kid's Church (Joshua 1:5-6). This is a short episode for the first one of the year.

[Happy New Year! High Energy Church Season 2 Episode 1 - YouTube](#)

Rochester Diocese Ministry at Home (None this week)