

Large Group



## LESSON 3: LARGE GROUP

### Joy

#### MAIN IDEA

Jesus is the King who offers hope and joy to all who believe in him. Jesus is the only way to come to God.

#### BIBLE PASSAGES

- Acts 20:35
- Isaiah 7:14
- Matthew 22:37-39
- Philippians 2:3-4
- Matthew 2:1-16

#### MEMORY VERSE

All right then, the Lord himself will give you the sign. Look! The virgin will conceive a child! She will give birth to a son and will call him Immanuel (which means 'God is with us').

Isaiah 7:14, NLT



Prepare your heart to teach.  
Plan for the lesson.



Introduce the story of the Gospel.  
(10-15 minutes)



Play large group games.  
(25 minutes)

## Prepare



Prepare your heart to teach.  
Plan for the lesson.

### QUESTIONS

- How can you be praying for the student this week? Are there any specific students or requests you can pray for?
- Are there any changes and additions needed for the Large Group Lesson?
- Is there anything specific you need to communicate to the small group leaders?

### MATERIALS NEEDED

- Bible
- Name tags for skit
- Printout 1, 8 copies—one for each character
- (Optional) Star (can be a cardboard cutout or a shiny star)
- (Optional) Gifts of gold, frankincense, myrrh (can be represented by boxes or jars)
- Throne (chair) for King Herod
- (Optional) Baby doll

## Large Group



Introduce the story of the Gospel.  
(10-15 minutes)

### LEADER NOTE

### INTRODUCTION

Ask,

- **If you had the chance to go see someone famous, would you go?**
- **What would you do when you saw them?**
- **Would you bring anything with you?**

Say, **It would be exciting to meet someone famous! If you had the chance to meet someone famous or special, most of us would make that happen. It can bring so much excitement and joy to experience something that special.**

**As we look at the first Christmas, we get to hear how three men found out that there was going to be a new King. They decided to go meet this new King!**

Ask for several volunteers to help with a skit to share the story of the new King being born.

If you have a story of meeting someone important or famous, consider sharing briefly about your experience.

### SKIT (BASED ON MATTHEW 2:1-16)

Instruct students to only read the bold words for their character. Pick students to play the following characters. Provide name tags for each character.

Characters:

- Narrator (leader)
- Wiseman 1
- Wiseman 2
- Wiseman 3
- King Herod
- Angel
- Mary
- Joseph
- Baby Jesus (a baby doll)

Printout 1 contains the script.

## WRAP IT UP

- **What did the wisemen first notice that let them know there was a new king?** (There was a bright new star in the sky.)
- **What did they decide to do when they saw the star signaling there was a new king?** (Follow the star to the new King.)
- **What did the wisemen bring with them?** (Gifts of gold, frankincense, and myrrh.)

Say, **The wisemen saw a star in the sky that let them know there was a new king born. They decided to travel a long distance to go worship this new King. They brought with them some gifts to offer the new King.**

**We have the opportunity at Christmas to give and receive gifts similar to the very first Christmas when Jesus was born as the new King. There is so much joy that comes from giving and receiving gifts.**

**The wisemen wanted to worship and offer gifts to Jesus, but King Herod didn't like the idea of a new king. We will get to talk more about this in our small groups.**

Close in prayer, and dismiss into small groups.