

MESSY CHURCH @HOME



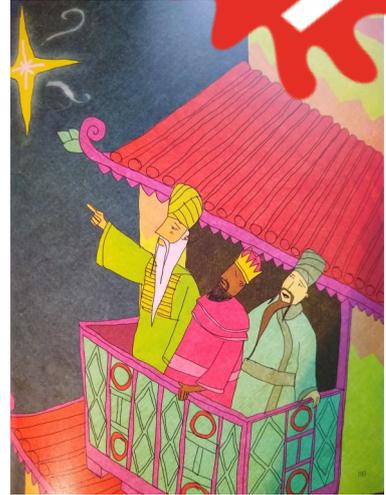
Story Time

Gifts!

Matthew 2:1-12 and
Mark 1:4-11

This week we are thinking about gifts! You may have been given some gifts at Christmas? Did you write some thank you cards or telephone and say thank you?

We have two parts to our story today, the first is the story of Epiphany, the story of the wise men who travelled a treacherous journey following a

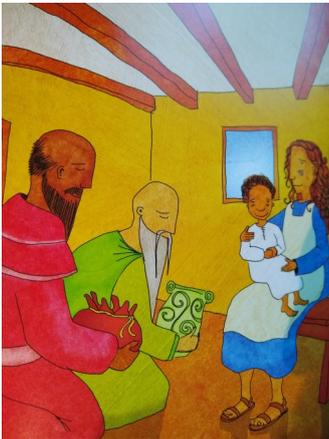


star seeking the new king, Jesus. (He was a gift to us from God!

The first of the gifts) They found him in a little house, a child sitting on his Mother's knee. They knelt before him, bowed their noble heads and gave him their sparkling gifts. (these are the next gifts— from the wise Men to Jesus!)

You can hear the whole story here on you tube:

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=TCNbKe3MgVk&feature=youtu.be>



About the same time Jesus was born, another baby was born. His name was John, and God had a special job for him. John was going to get everyone ready for Jesus. God sent John to tell His people something important: "Stop running away from God and run to him instead," John said. "You need to be rescued. I have good news—the Rescuer is coming! Make your hearts ready for him. Yes! Get ready, because your King is coming back for you. (Here our next gift—Jesus as our rescuer.)

One day, John was baptising people in the Jordan River when he saw Jesus on the waters edge. "Will you baptise me, too?"

Jesus asked. "Who am I to baptise you?" John asked.

"It's what God wants me to do," Jesus said.

As John baptised Jesus, suddenly it was as if someone had drawn back curtains in a dark room, as if heaven had opened as a beautiful light broke through the clouds. A white dove flew down and gently rested on Jesus. And a voice came from heaven, clear and strong so everyone could hear.

"This is my own Son. And I love Him. I am very pleased with Him," God said "Listen to Him." Heaven had broken through.

The Great Rescue had begun....

