

The King Is Protected

King of Kings
Lesson 2

Lesson Objectives

- The children will hear the story of how God protected Jesus from King Herod.
- The children will say one way that God protected Jesus.
- The children will tell one way God protects disciples today.

Lesson Text

Matthew 2:1-18

Scripture Memory Verse

You will protect me from trouble.
Psalm 32:7

Lesson Plan

Greeting and Registration

Preclass Activity: Magi Maze

Welcome and Singing

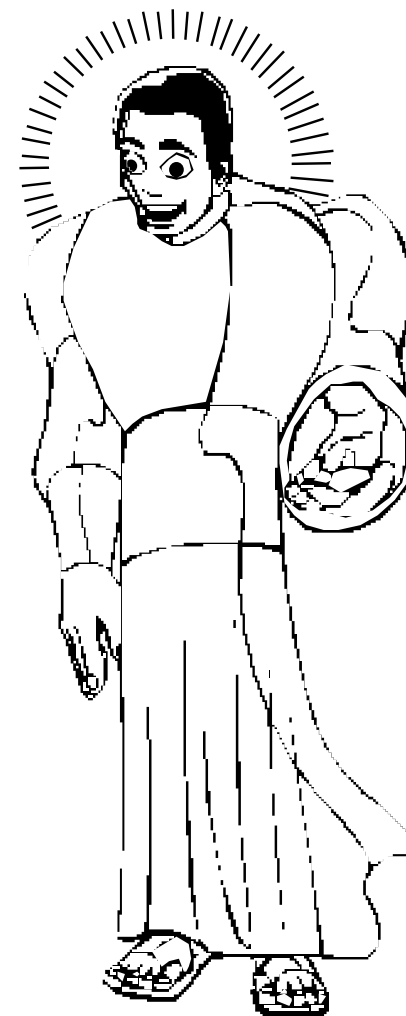
Centers:

Bible Story: In Search of the King

Craft: Angel Mosaic

Scripture Memory: Watching over Me

NOTE: Allow time for a snack.



pre
class

ACTIVITY



The King Is Protected

Magi Maze

The children will preview today's Bible Story as they complete a fun maze.

Materials

For each child:

- pencil
- crayons

Reproducible Pages:

- Page A, 1 copy for each child

Preparation

Complete the activity on your copy of Reproducible Page A.

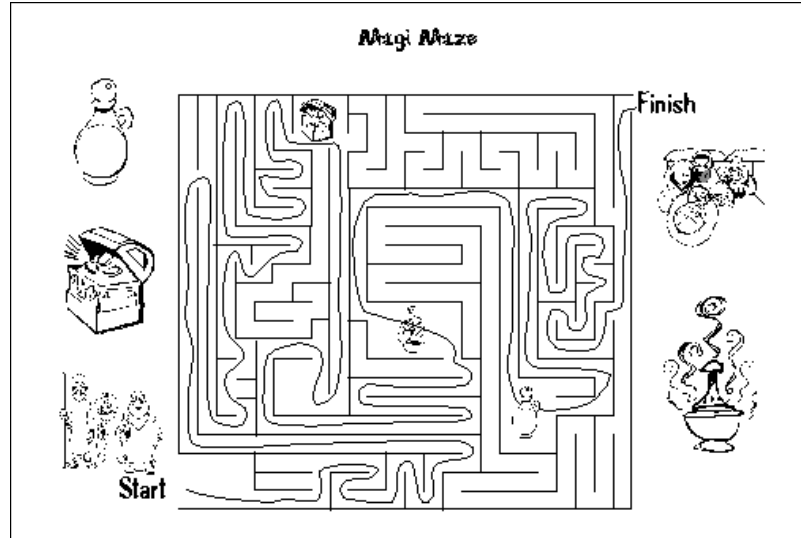
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Instructions

1. Greet the children as they arrive. Tell them that they will be learning about some wise men who wanted to find Jesus to worship him and bring him gifts. Explain that in today's Preclass Activity they will help the wise men find Jesus.
2. Distribute the copies of Reproducible Page A and pencils. Encourage the children to work together.
3. Circulate among the children to offer help and assistance.
4. Those who finish early can color the pictures on the maze.
5. Make sure the children write their names on their pages.

Teacher Tips

- Have a pencil sharpener and extra erasers available.



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In Search of the King

The children will tell the story of how God protected Jesus from King Herod.

Materials

For the teacher:

- 1 piece of poster board, 22" x 28"
- 2 pieces of poster board, 2" x 2"
- 6 pieces of adhesive magnetic tape, 1/2" x 1"
- 4 pieces of adhesive magnetic tape, 1/2" x 3"
- gold stars
- scissors
- colored pencils

Reproducible Pages:

- Page B, 1 copy for the teacher
- Page C, 1 copy for the teacher (on card stock)

Preparation

1. Enlarge and color your copy of Reproducible Page B (or use it as a pattern to draw a larger version) and put it on the poster board.
2. Color and cut out the pictures from your copy of Reproducible Page C. Place a piece of magnetic tape on the back of each picture.
3. Place pieces of magnetic tape beneath each of the four locations on the map, as shown on the back of this Lesson Card.
4. Practice telling this story using the map and story figures.

Introducing the Bible Story

Open your Bible to Matthew 2. Tell the children that today's story is found in the New Testament book of Matthew chapter 2. Ask the children if they ever go out at night and look up at the stars in the sky. Tell them that God created every star. Tell them how much you enjoy looking at the stars. Tell the children that in today's story, they will learn that God used a star to guide some very important men to find Jesus. They will use stars to note ways that God protected Jesus, too.

Presenting the Bible Story

Take out the map you prepared and show it to the children. Introduce each of the locations with the following questions:

- Who remembers where Joseph and Mary were before Caesar Augustus declared that a census had to be taken? (Jerusalem)
- Who remembers the place where Joseph and Mary went when Jesus was born? (Bethlehem)
- In today's story, you will learn about some very wise men called "Magi" who came to worship Jesus after he was born. Where do you think they came from? (the East)
- You will also learn today about a king named Herod who wanted Jesus to be killed. But God protected Jesus and his parents by telling them to escape. Who can guess where God told them to go? (Egypt)

As you tell this story, have a child come and place a small gold star on every place on the map where a thought is presented about God protecting Jesus.

One day, a long time ago, some very wise men called Magi were looking at the stars in the sky. (Hold up the figure of the Magi and place it in on the map next to "East.") They saw one star and knew that it was very special. In fact, they decided to follow that star. They traveled from their home in the East all the way to Jerusalem. These wise men knew that the star was a sign that a new king was born. They wanted to bring gifts and worship this newborn king. (Move the figure of the Magi to Jerusalem.)

When the Magi arrived in Jerusalem, they asked, "Where is the one who has been born king of the Jews? We saw his star in the east and have come to worship him." (Matthew 2:2) The Bible says that when King Herod heard about this, he was very upset. (Hold up the figure of King Herod.) King Herod did not know that a new king had been born. He wanted to know more about this king so he called all his advisors and wise men. They told King Herod that the prophet Isaiah tells of a king who would be born in Bethlehem and who would lead God's people.

(Place the figure of Herod next to the Magi.) After Herod learned of this, he called the Magi together for a secret meeting to learn the time and place of this new king's birth. Herod asked the Magi to return and tell him where the baby was so that he could go and worship him too. Herod did not tell the Magi about his real plans for the baby.



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The Magi continued following the star until they reached Bethlehem. (Place the Magi in Bethlehem.) Listen to what the Bible says:

When they saw the star, they were overjoyed. On coming to the house, they saw the child with his mother Mary, and they bowed down and worshiped him. Then they opened their treasures and presented him with gifts of gold and of incense and of myrrh (Matthew 2:10-11).

(Place the figure of Mary and Jesus next to the Magi.)

After giving their presents and worshipping Jesus, the Magi prepared to leave. But before they did, they had a dream that warned them not to go back to King Herod. The Magi changed their plans and returned to their country in the East by a different route. (Move the Magi back to the East. Remove Mary and Jesus.)

Listen to what the Bible says happened next: (Place the angel and Joseph figures together in Bethlehem.)

When they had gone, an angel of the Lord appeared to Joseph in a dream. "Get up," he said, "take the child and his mother and escape to Egypt. Stay there until I tell you, for Herod is going to search for the child to kill him."

So he got up, took the child and his mother during the night and left for Egypt, where he stayed until the death of Herod. And so was fulfilled what the Lord had said through the prophet: "Out of Egypt I called my son" (Matthew 2:13-15).

(Move the Joseph, Mary and Jesus figures to Egypt.)

When King Herod found out that the Magi tricked him and returned home by a different way, he was extremely angry. Now, Herod had no way of finding the newborn king. Herod came up with a terrible plan. He ordered all the baby boys to be killed. That way, Herod thought that this new king would never grow up to take his place as king. But God had already protected Jesus by sending an angel to his father and moving Jesus' family to Egypt. After King Herod died, God told Joseph to return with his family to his home. And they lived in a town called Nazareth.

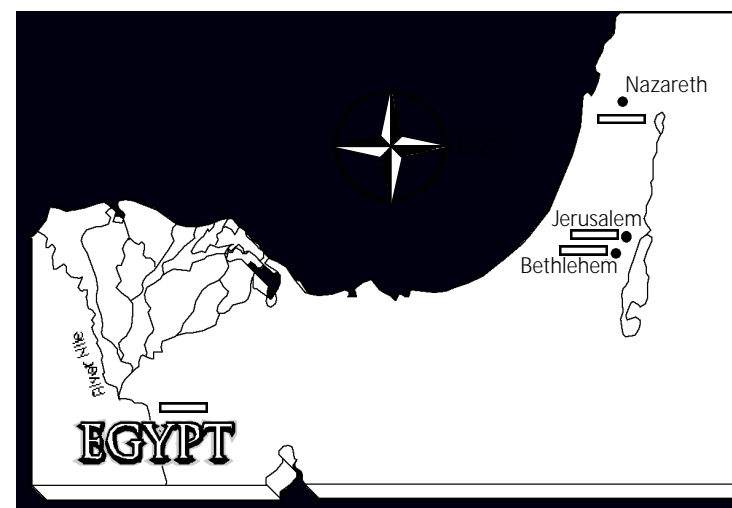
Ask for volunteers to retell the story in their own words using the story figures. Ask them to point out the different times and ways that God protected Jesus and his family.

Share and Tell

Help the children to see that God protected Jesus and his family. Explain that God protected Jesus so that he could grow up to lead and protect us. Ask the children if they can think of someone who needs God's protection. Encourage the children to tell this story to that person this week. Close with a prayer thanking God for protecting Jesus and his family.

Teacher Tips

- If the children in your class did not hear the Bible Story from Unit 15 Lesson 1, then the children may need help with introductory questions.
- Think of additional ways to enhance the story figures and map, using bright colors, simple landscape scenes or even background music.



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Angel Mosaic

The children will make angel pictures reminding them of the angel God sent to protect Jesus.

Materials

For each child:

- crayons
- glue stick
- envelope
- 1 piece of construction paper, 9" x 12"

For the teacher:

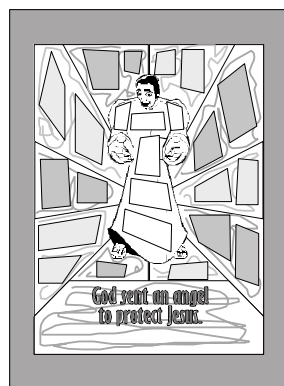
- orange, yellow and white tissue paper
- scissors

Reproducible Pages:

- Page D, 1 copy for each child

Preparation

1. Cut out the angel pictures from the copies of Reproducible Page D.
2. Prepare tissue paper squares for each child as follows:
 - A. Cut ten 1" yellow tissue paper squares.
 - B. Cut ten 1" orange tissue paper squares.
 - C. Cut five 1" white tissue paper squares.
 - D. Place the tissue paper squares in an envelope for each child.
3. Make a sample angel mosaic picture.



Instructions:

1. Introduce today's activity: In today's lesson you are learning about the Magi who came to worship Jesus and to bring him gifts. Show the children your sample. Explain the significance of the "o"s, "y"s and "w"s that are printed on the angel pictures. (See Step 3.)
2. Give the children the angel pictures and crayons. Have them color their pictures. Suggest that they lightly color the "o" areas orange, the "y" areas yellow, and the "w" area white.
3. Give the children glue sticks and the envelopes of tissue paper squares. Have the children glue their tissue paper squares to their pictures. Suggest that they glue the orange squares to the "o" areas the yellow squares to the "y" areas, and the white squares to the "w" area.
4. Give the children their construction paper. Have them glue their completed pictures onto the construction paper.
5. Have the children write their names on their pictures.

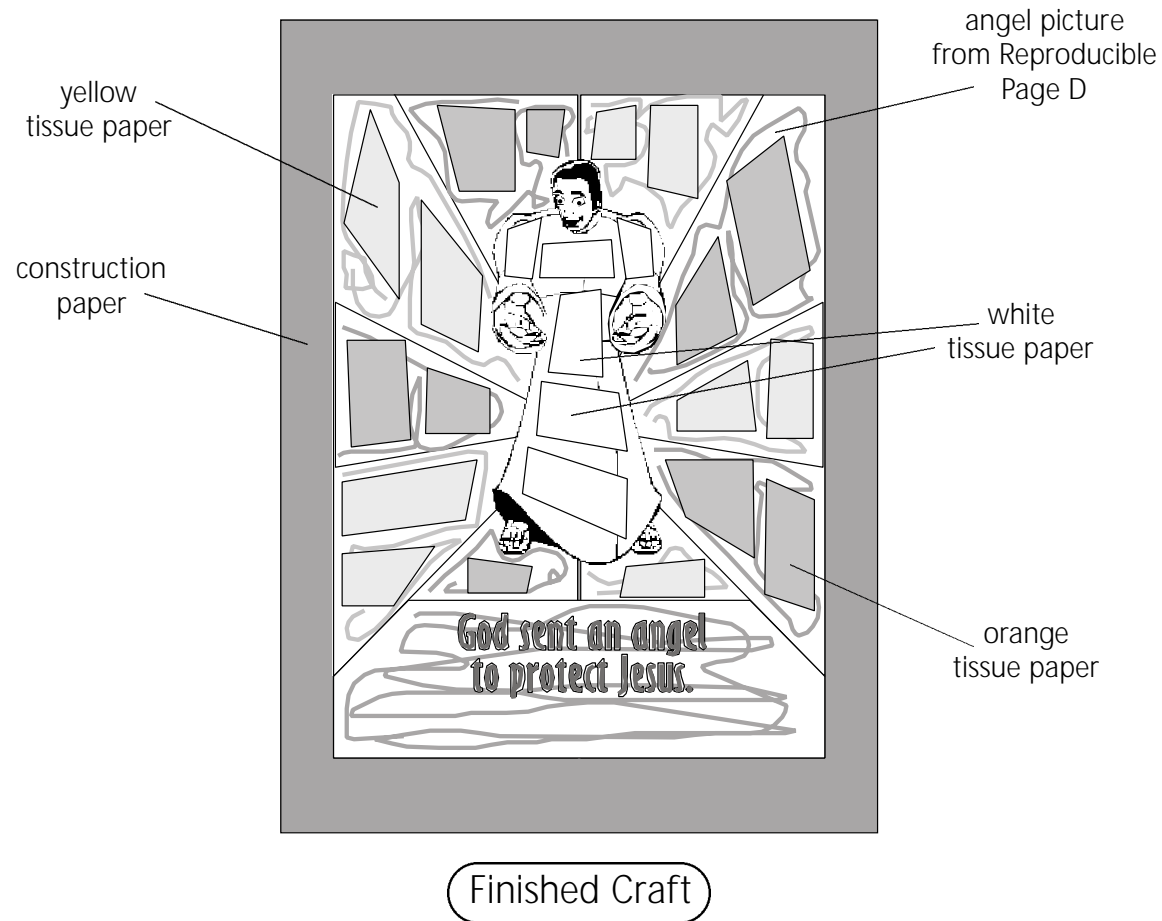
Conclusion

This beautiful angel will remind you of how God used an angel to protect Jesus. Close with a short prayer thanking God for sending angels to protect Jesus and us!

Teacher Tips

- Tissue paper can be cut easily by stacking it and holding it down with a ruler while using scissors or a rotary cutter.

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SCRIPTURE MEMORY



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Watching over Me

The children will learn and memorize the Scripture Memory Verse through this fun activity.

Scripture Memory Verse

You will protect me from trouble.
Psalm 32:7

Materials

For the teacher:

- an umbrella

Preparation

1. Learn the Scripture Memory Verse by heart.
2. Practice leading this activity.

Instructions

1. Introduce today's activity: In the lesson today, you are learning about the Magi who came to worship Jesus and bring him gifts. God sent an angel to warn Joseph and tell him to move his family to Egypt. God protected Jesus from harm. Our Scripture Memory Verse today teaches us that God not only protected Jesus from trouble, but he also wants to protect us from trouble, too!
2. Show the children the Scripture Memory Verse on the back of this Lesson Card. Say it to them three times, pointing to the words while they listen. Ask them to say it with you three more times, each time pointing to the words for them. Ask each child to stand next to you and say the verse together with you. Ask for volunteers to say the verse alone. Make sure that the children say the reference each time they say the verse.
3. Carefully open the umbrella and put it over your head. Tell the children that this umbrella protects you from the rain. Tell the children that if they trust God and obey him, God will protect them from all kinds of trouble.

4. Choose two children to hold the umbrella together and say the Scripture Memory Verse. Do this until all the children have said the verse with a partner.
5. Ask the children for volunteers to stand and hold the umbrella alone and say the Scripture Memory Verse. Do this until all the children have had a chance to say the verse.

Circle Time

Remove the umbrella and have the children sit in a circle. Tell the children that they are going to say the verse and then choose the next child to say the verse. Begin by saying the verse, followed by the name of a child. That child will say the verse, followed by the name of another child. This continues until all the children have had a chance to say the verse. Be sure that every child has an opportunity to say the verse. Encourage the children to help each other if they get stuck.

Conclusion

Ask the children to think of the kinds of trouble that they might get into. Help them to see that if they trust and obey God, he can help protect them in all their troubles, just as he did Jesus. Close with a prayer thanking God for his protection.

Teacher Tips

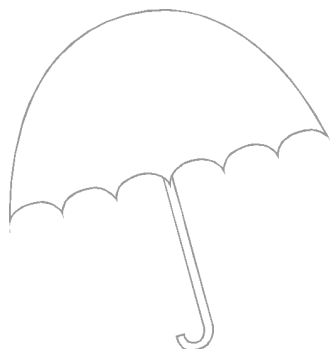
- Do not bring in an umbrella with a sharp or pointed end.
- Bring in additional items that represent protection such as: sun block, medicine, plastic gloves, bandages, etc. Adapt them for use in this activity.

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You will protect me
from trouble.



Psalm 32:7





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- The children will hear the story of how God protected Jesus from Herod.
- The children will say one way that God protected Jesus.
- The children will tell one way God protects disciples today.

Lesson Text

Matthew 2:1-18

Scripture Memory Verse

You will protect me from trouble.

Psalms 32:7

Lesson Plan

Greeting and Registration

Preclass Activity: Handle with Care

Welcome and Singing

Centers:

Life Application: The Protector

Game: Star Search

Bible Skills: Protected People

NOTE: Allow time for a snack.

Handle with Care

The children will review this week's Bible Story as they consider God's protection.

Materials

For each child:

- 1 hard-boiled egg
- 1 small paper cup
- 2 cotton balls
- colored markers
- scraps of cloth
- glue stick

For the teacher:

- scissors

Preparation

Prepare your egg to introduce to the children.

Instructions

1. Greet the children as they arrive. Remind the children that they are learning about how God protected Jesus from King Herod's plot to kill him, and God still wants to protect his children today. Explain that their Preclass Activity will help them understand how God protects us.
2. Introduce your sample egg to the children. Tell them that they will each be given an egg to represent a young child that they will take care of and protect during today's class. Tell them to put a face on their egg and dress it with the cloth. Tell the children that they will each get a cup and cotton to keep their egg safe in during the class.
3. Distribute the eggs, markers, glue sticks, cloth, cups and cotton. Tell the children to be very careful with their eggs as they dress them. Encourage them to give their eggs a name and an age between one and four years old.
4. Circulate among the children to help them write their names on their cups as well as the name of their eggs. Do not allow the children to mistreat the eggs or they will not be able participate in this activity. When they are finished, have them place the eggs carefully inside their cups.
5. Collect all the eggs (including your sample) and give them to the Life Application teacher.

Teacher Tips

- If you are unable to use eggs for this activity, substitute with Ping-Pong balls.

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The Protector

The children will review this week's Bible Story as they think of ways that God protects disciples today.

Materials

For each child:

- egg from Preclass Activity

For the teacher:

- sample egg from Preclass Activity

Special Advanced Preparation

Talk with your ministry leader(s) about disciples in your ministry who have experienced God's protection and who could talk to the children. Decide if it is better to have them come to class or for you to share their stories.

Reviewing the Bible Story

Open your Bible to Mathew 2. In this week's story, you learned that God protected Jesus from Herod. Herod did not want Jesus to grow up and lead his people. God protected Jesus by telling the Magi in a dream not to go back and tell Herod where Jesus was living. God also protected Jesus by sending an angel to tell Joseph how to keep Jesus safe from Herod. God not only protected Jesus, but he also wants to protect disciples today from harm.

Life Application

Distribute the eggs that the children made in their Preclass Activity. Tell them to hold their eggs carefully in their hands for this activity. Ask the children to introduce their eggs by telling their names and ages. Tell the children to imagine for a moment that this egg was a real child. Ask the following questions and be prepared to help the children think of answers.

- What would you do if you found out that someone wanted to hurt your child?
- How would you try to make sure that no one hurts your child?
- Is it easy to take care of your child all the time? Why or why not?

Tell the children that you want them to hear about some disciples from your ministry whom God has protected. Introduce the disciple(s) (or present their stories) to the children, being careful to point out the specific ways that God protected the person. Make sure that the children thank your guest(s) before they leave.

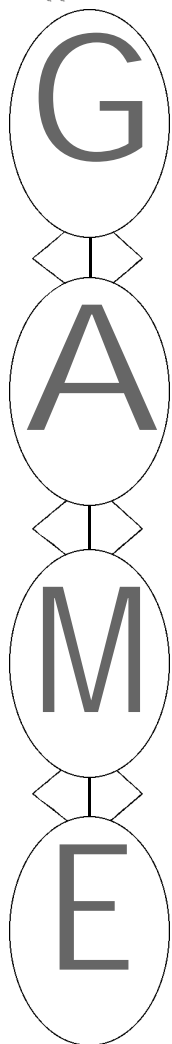
Conclusion

Help the children to understand that this does not mean that disciples never have trouble. The Bible is full of examples of God's people who faced great dangers and troubles. But God wants us to believe and trust that he can protect us from our troubles, no matter how big they seem. Close with a prayer for the children to see God's protection in their lives.

Teacher Tips

- Collect the eggs and tell the children to make sure to get them before they go home today.
- Decide in advance how much time to devote to your guests. If there is not enough time to do both, leave out the egg introductions.

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Star Search

The children will review important ideas from this week's lesson as they consider ways that God protected Jesus.

Materials

For the teacher:

- scissors
- timer or watch with a second hand
- 1 piece of poster board, 22" x 28" (if available)

Reproducible Pages:

- Page E, 2 copies for the teacher (on yellow card stock)

Preparation

1. Cut out the star cards from both copies of Reproducible Page E.
2. Arrange the star cards on the poster board, as shown on the back of this Lesson Card.

Instructions

1. Introduce today's activity: In this week's lesson you learned more about Jesus' birth. You learned about men who came to worship Jesus and about a man who wanted to hurt Jesus. You also learned how God protected Jesus from harm because he had a special plan for Jesus' life and did not want anyone to hurt him. In our game today we are going to review the story with questions about what happened when God protected Jesus.
2. Divide the children into two teams. Be careful to balance the children who did not hear this week's Bible Story with those who did. Have both teams open their Bibles to Matthew 2. Tell the children that they may use their Bibles to answer the questions.
3. Show the children the stars on the poster board. Explain that on each star is a question from this week's Bible Story about ways that God protected Jesus. Explain that there are two stars that have "Jesus" written on them. Tell the children that the object of the game is to be the first team to find Jesus.

4. Choose a team to go first. Tell them to choose one of the two "start" stars. From that star, they may choose any star on the board that is next to the start star (on the left, right, above, below or at an angle) Have the team turn that star over. Read the question on that star to the team. Give them one minute to answer the question. If they answer correctly, they keep that star turned over. If they do not answer correctly, they turn the star back over so that the question is face down. Play goes to the next team. Use the Answer Key below to assist you.
5. The game continues as the children move star by star, answering questions until they find Jesus. The first team to find Jesus must all say, "God protected Jesus," to win.
6. Play as many rounds as time permits. Each time, collect and shuffle the stars and place them all face down except the start stars.

Answer Key

1. How did God warn Joseph? (angel; dream)
2. What king did not want Jesus to grow up and lead God's people? (King Herod)
3. Where did the Magi come from? (the East)
4. What did the Magi follow to find Jesus? (the star)
5. Why did the Magi want to see Jesus? (to bring gifts; to worship him)
6. Where did Joseph take his family to escape from King Herod? (Egypt)

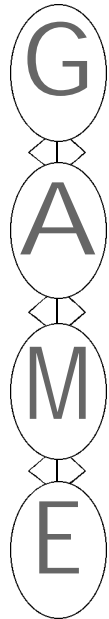
Conclusion

Remind the children that God protected Jesus. Close with a prayer thanking God for protecting Jesus so that he could help us.

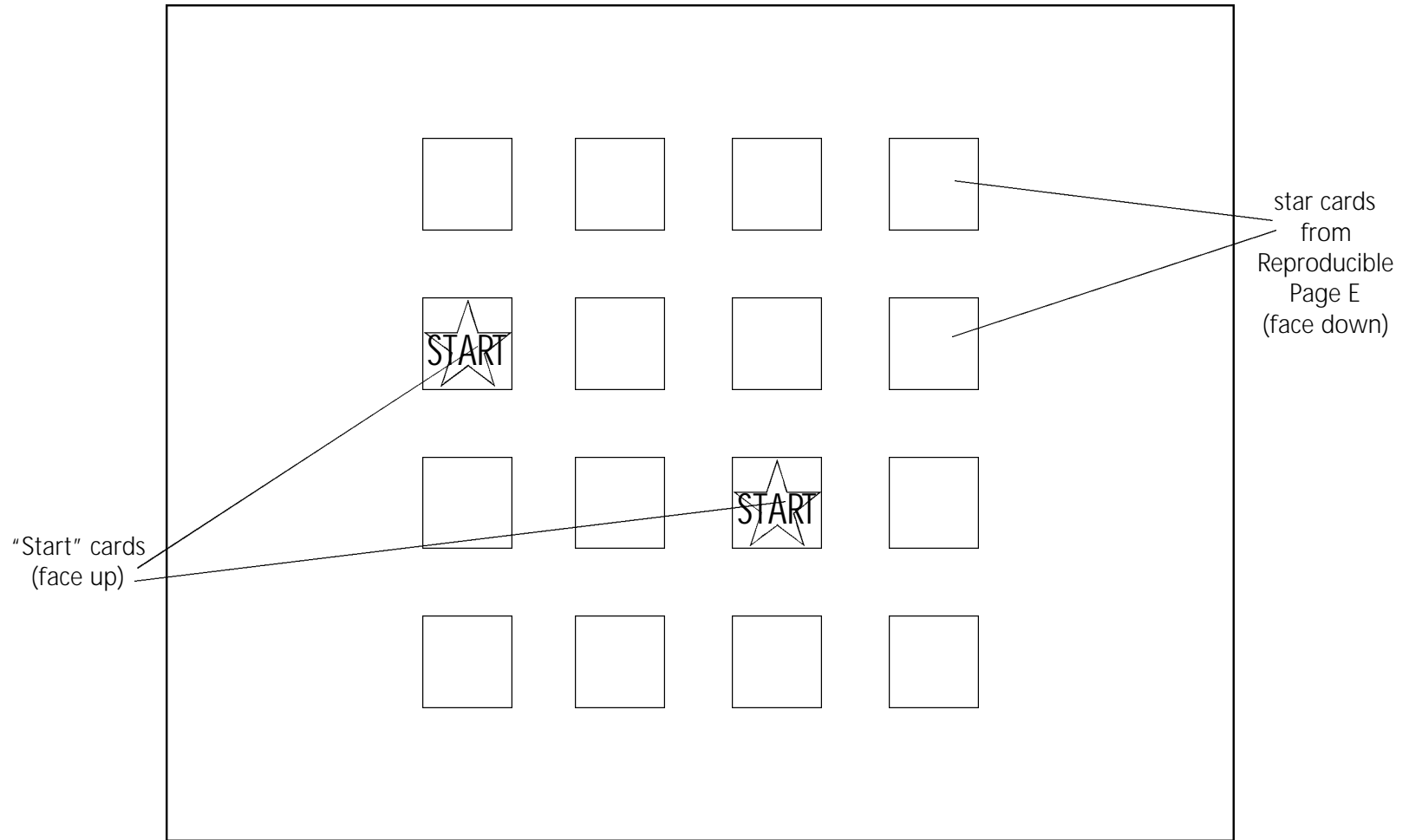
Teacher Tips

- If your class did not hear this week's Bible Story, then read and review each of the questions and answers from this game before playing.

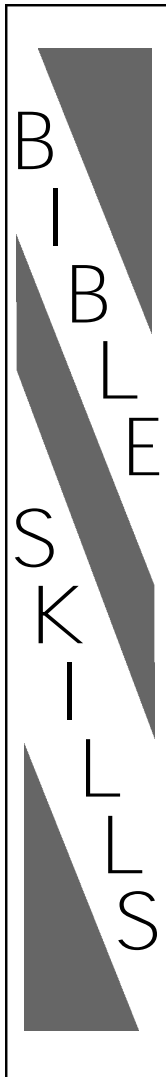




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Protected People

The children will look up verses that describe the ways God protects his people.

Materials

For each child:

- pencil
- crayons (optional)

Reproducible Pages:

- Page F, 1 copy for each child

Preparation

Complete the activity on your copy of Reproducible Page F.

Instructions

1. Introduce today's activity: In our Bible Story this week, you learned that God protected baby Jesus from being hurt by Herod. Throughout the Bible, you will see that God loves people very much. He watches over and protects his followers, just like he protected Jesus from Herod. Let's look at some different people that God protected.
2. Tell the children to find a partner and open their Bibles to Psalm 32:7. Read the verse to them. This verse tells us that God is like a hiding place where we can be safe from trouble. Let's look at more verses to learn about some of the people in the Bible that God protected.
3. Distribute the copies of Reproducible Page F and pencils. Show the children the list of verses on the back of this Lesson Card. Point to the first verse and help the children find it in their Bibles. When all the children have found it, read the verse slowly and have the children follow along. Tell them to find the same verse on their copies of Reproducible Page F.
4. For each verse, ask the children to tell you the name of the person God protected. Then tell them to find that name on their copy of Reproducible Page F and draw a line from the verse to the name.
5. Do this together with the children for each verse and name, until all the names and verses are connected.

Challenging Version

If your children are very confident in their reading and Bible skills, divide them into two groups. Give each group one copy of Reproducible Page F. Let each group do the activity as a group. The first group to complete the activity correctly wins.

Conclusion

In the time that remains, ask the children which of these Bible Stories is their favorite and why. Ask the children how it makes them feel to know that God wants to protect his people. Close with a prayer thanking God for his protection.

Teacher Tips

- If time permits, distribute the crayons and have the children color the names on their pages.

Protected People

When the child grew older, she took him to Pharaoh's daughter and he became her son. She named him Moses, saying, "I drew him out of the water." Exodus 2:10	Noah
So he got up, took the child and his mother during the night and left for Egypt, where he stayed until the death of Herod. Matthew 2:14	Peter
The king was overjoyed and gave orders to lift Daniel out of the den. And when Daniel was lifted from the den, no wound was found on him, because he had trusted in his God. Daniel 6:23	Moses
Then God said to Noah, "Come out of the ark, you and your wife and your sons and their wives." Genesis 8:15-16	Esther
Peter motioned with his hand for them to be quiet and described how the Lord had brought him out of prison. "Tell James and the other brothers about this," he said, and then he left for another place. Acts 12:17	Baby Jesus
Then Queen Esther answered, "If I have found favor with you, O king, and if it pleases your majesty, grant me my life—this is my petition. And spare my people—this is my request." Esther 7:3	Daniel



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Exodus 2:10

Matthew 2:14

Daniel 6:23

Genesis 8:15-16

Acts 12:17

Esther 7:3



Core/Preclass
1 copy for each child

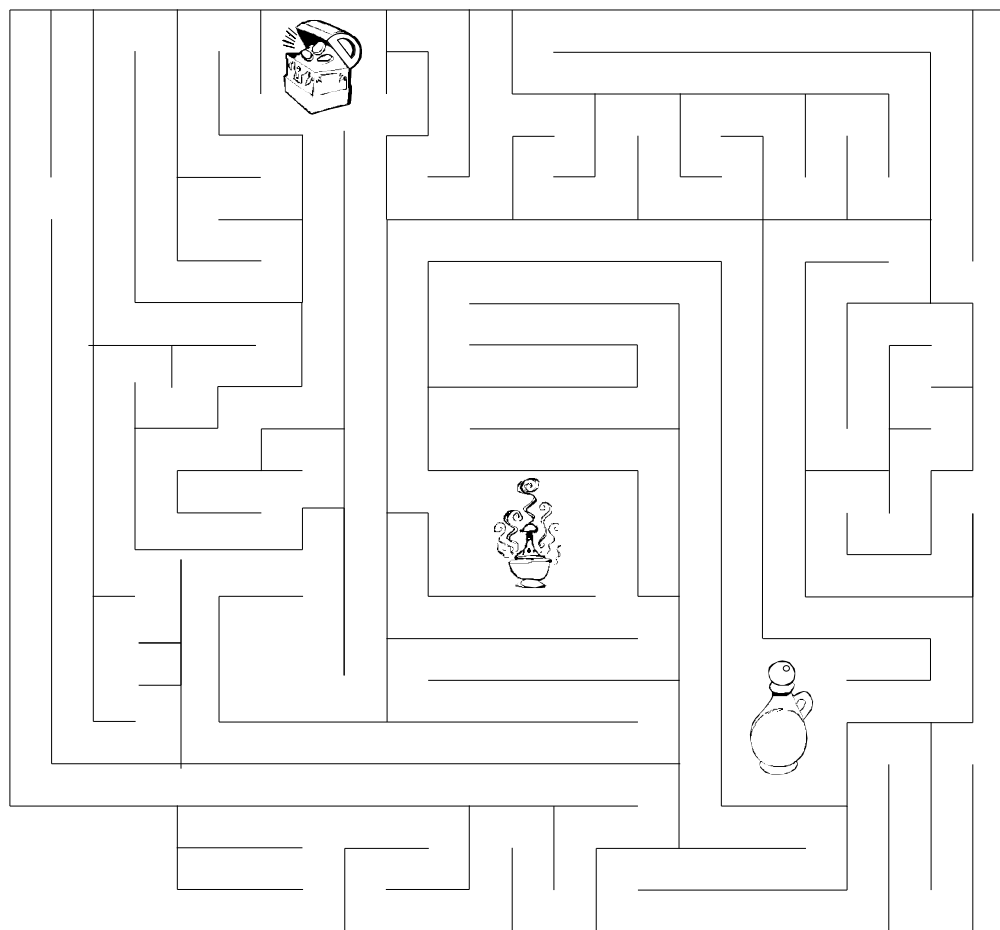
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Magi Maze

Name _____

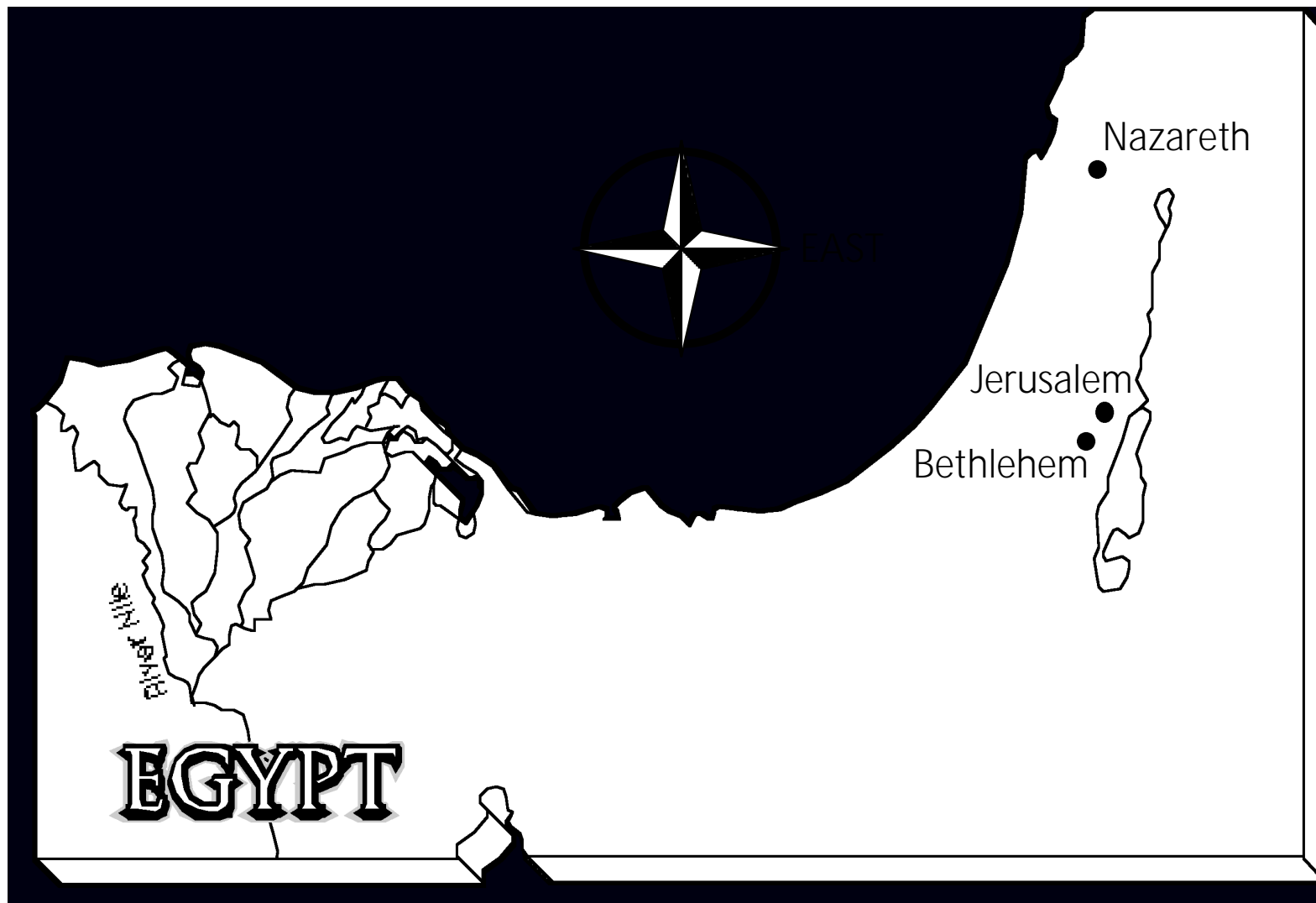


Start



Finish

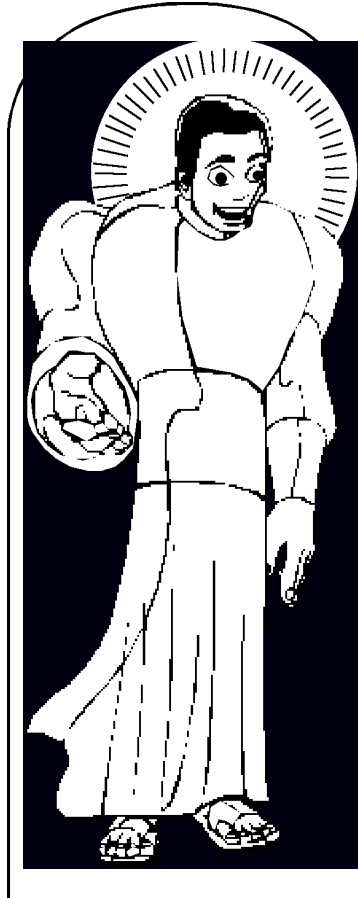
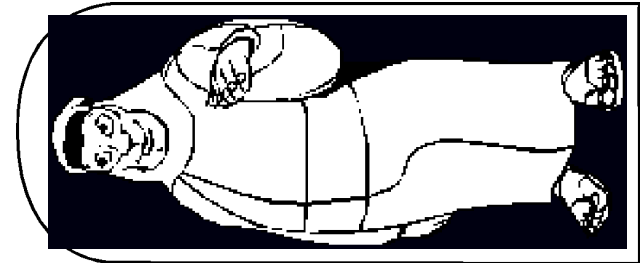
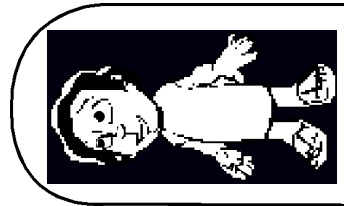
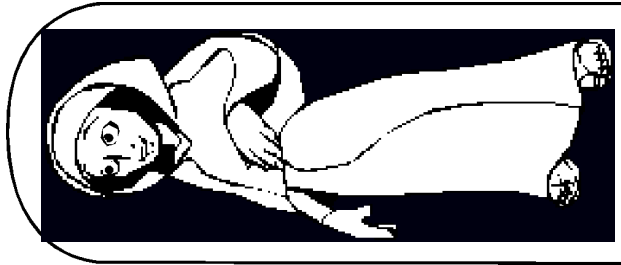




Core/Bible Story

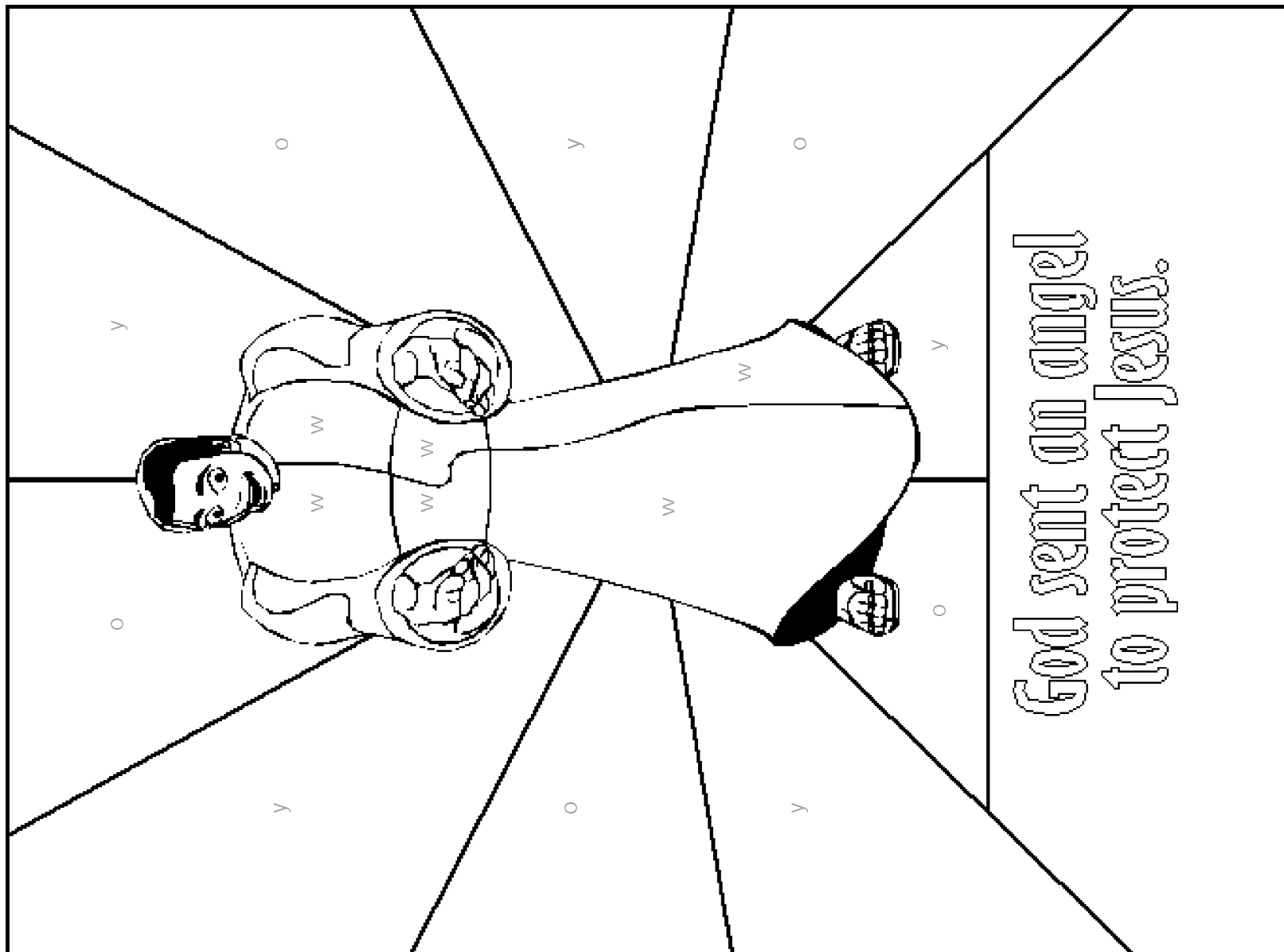
1 copy for the teacher (on card stock)

King of Kings Lesson 2



Core/Craft
1 copy for each child

King of Kings
Lesson 2



Supplement/Game

2 copies for the teacher (on yellow card stock)

King of Kings
Lesson 2

START	JESUS	How did God warn Joseph?	What king did not want Jesus to grow up and lead God's people?
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Where did the Magi come from?	What did the Magi follow to find Jesus?	Why did the Magi want to see Jesus?	Where did Joseph take his family to escape from Herod?
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Supplement/Bible Skills

1 copy for each child

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Name _____

Protected People

When the child grew older, she took him to Pharaoh's daughter and he became her son. She named him Moses, saying, "I drew him out of the water."

Exodus 2:10

Noah

So he got up, took the child and his mother during the night and left for Egypt, where he stayed until the death of Herod.

Matthew 2:14

Peter

The king was overjoyed and gave orders to lift Daniel out of the den. And when Daniel was lifted from the den, no wound was found on him, because he had trusted in his God.

Daniel 6:23

Moses

Then God said to Noah, "Come out of the ark, you and your wife and your sons and their wives."

Genesis 8:15-16

Esther

Peter motioned with his hand for them to be quiet and described how the Lord had brought him out of prison. "Tell James and the other brothers about this," he said, and then he left for another place.

Acts 12:17

Baby Jesus

Then Queen Esther answered, "If I have found favor with you, O king, and if it pleases your majesty, grant me my life—this is my petition. And spare my people—this is my request."

Esther 7:3

Daniel

