





# Isaiah 9:2

## "Darkness"

[Isaiah 9: 1-7](#)

**Verse:** The people who walked in darkness, have seen a great light; those who lived in a land of deep darkness — on them light has shined.

**Question:** What kind of "darkness" might people walk in or live in during their lives? Think about what that might look like or feel like.

**Prayer:** Take a moment to bow your head and ask God to guide your life and to guide anyone who may walk or live in darkness.

**Additional Activity:** Listen to this appropriately entitled song, "Flashlight" and imagine Jesus as your flashlight in all those dark places in your life. Don't forget when you're feeling your best to shine your beautiful light bright for those in their dark places to see and follow you out into the light of that wonderful love!



# Isaiah 9:1-7

## New Revised Standard Version

### The Righteous Reign of the Coming King

**9** <sup>a</sup> But there will be no gloom for those who were in anguish. In the former time he brought into contempt the land of Zebulun and the land of Naphtali, but in the latter time he will make glorious the way of the sea, the land beyond the Jordan, Galilee of the nations.

**2** <sup>b</sup> The people who walked in darkness  
have seen a great light;  
those who lived in a land of deep darkness—  
on them light has shined.

**3** You have multiplied the nation,  
you have increased its joy;  
they rejoice before you  
as with joy at the harvest,  
as people exult when dividing plunder.

**4** For the yoke of their burden,  
and the bar across their shoulders,  
the rod of their oppressor,  
you have broken as on the day of Midian.

**5** For all the boots of the tramping warriors  
and all the garments rolled in blood  
shall be burned as fuel for the fire.

<sup>6</sup> For a child has been born for us,  
a son given to us;  
authority rests upon his shoulders;  
and he is named

Wonderful Counselor, Mighty God,  
Everlasting Father, Prince of Peace.

<sup>7</sup> His authority shall grow continually,  
and there shall be endless peace  
for the throne of David and his kingdom.

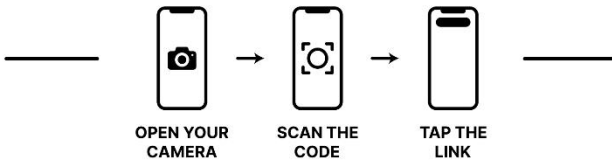
He will establish and uphold it  
with justice and with righteousness  
from this time onward and forevermore.

The zeal of the LORD of hosts will do this.

# Isaiah 9:2 "Darkness"



Skip ahead 45 seconds into video if you prefer to hear the scripture sooner





# John 8:12 "Light"

[John 8: 12-20](#)

**Turn on your light!**

**Verse:** Jesus spoke to them, saying, "I am the light of the world. Whoever follows me will never walk in darkness but will have the light of life."

**Question:** Name or think about a few things that people use light for or what light does for us. Be as descriptive as possible! How does this connect to how Jesus is a light in our lives?

**Prayer:** Take a moment to ask God to shine his healing light on some difficult or dark part of your life.

**As you walk to the next station,** "Follow the light of the world" by having one person walk ahead of you or "guide" you (if it is daylight) with their light on as you keep your own light off.

# John 8:12-20

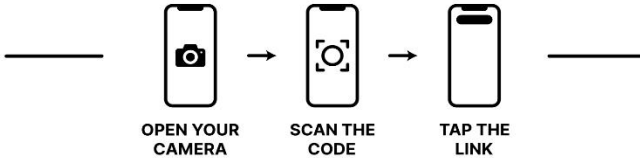
## New Revised Standard Version

Jesus the Light of the World

<sup>12</sup> Again Jesus spoke to them, saying, "I am the light of the world. Whoever follows me will never walk in darkness but will have the light of life." <sup>13</sup> Then the Pharisees said to him, "You are testifying on your own behalf; your testimony is not valid." <sup>14</sup> Jesus answered, "Even if I testify on my own behalf, my testimony is valid because I know where I have come from and where I am going, but you do not know where I come from or where I am going. <sup>15</sup> You judge by human standards;<sup>(a)</sup> I judge no one. <sup>16</sup> Yet even if I do judge, my judgment is valid; for it is not I alone who judge, but I and the Father<sup>(b)</sup> who sent me. <sup>17</sup> In your law it is written that the testimony of two witnesses is valid. <sup>18</sup> I testify on my own behalf, and the Father who sent me testifies on my behalf." <sup>19</sup> Then they said to him, "Where is your Father?" Jesus answered, "You know neither me nor my Father. If you knew me, you would know my Father also." <sup>20</sup> He spoke these words while he was teaching in the treasury of the temple, but no one arrested him, because his hour had not yet come.

# John 8:12 "Light"

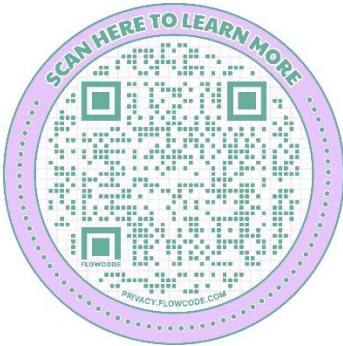
LET LIGHT SHINE





## Additional Activity:

<https://thatafterschoollife.com/flashlight-art.html>



Use a paper cup or even some tin foil. Draw out your design on the area on the end of the cup or a smaller area of the tin foil, slightly larger than the end of the flashlight, then use a pin to poke holes in the design. Use the flashlight behind the cup or tinfoil to project the design

onto the wall while having the lights off.

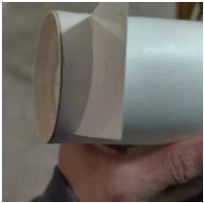
Or use the following materials provided as such:



1. Pin picture to foam



2. Use push pin to outline the silhouette of the shape with pinholes close together one after another. Or cut the shape out entirely.



3. Insert the pin-poked/cut-out silhouette into the slits cut on either side of the bottom of the cup that will have the bottom pushed or cut out also.



4. Finally, turn the lights out and hold the flashlight inside the cup just an inch or two from the silhouette and point cup at a wall or smooth surface to see your shape! Experiment with distance for effect! Enjoy the Show!



# Isaiah 7:14

## “Emmanuel”

[Isaiah 7:10-14](#)

**Verse:** Therefore, the Lord himself shall give you a sign; Behold, a virgin shall conceive, and bear a son, and shall call his name Immanuel. [Immanuel means “God with us”]

**Question:** Name a time when you felt God was close to you or with you.

**Prayer:** Take a moment to thank God for wanting to be with you and share your life.

**As you walk to the next station,** hold hands, lock arms with each other or walk holding your hands comfortably open by your side symbolizing your openness to receive the love around you.

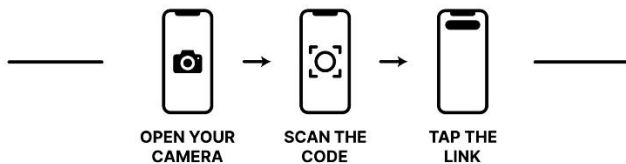
# Isaiah 7:10-14

## New Revised Standard Version

Isaiah Gives Ahaz the Sign of Immanuel

<sup>10</sup> Again the LORD spoke to Ahaz, saying, <sup>11</sup> Ask a sign of the LORD your God; let it be deep as Sheol or high as heaven. <sup>12</sup> But Ahaz said, I will not ask, and I will not put the LORD to the test. <sup>13</sup> Then Isaiah<sup>[a]</sup> said: "Hear then, O house of David! Is it too little for you to weary mortals, that you weary my God also? <sup>14</sup> Therefore the Lord himself will give you a sign. Look, the young woman<sup>[b]</sup> is with child and shall bear a son, and shall name him Immanuel.<sup>[c]</sup>

# IMMANUEL

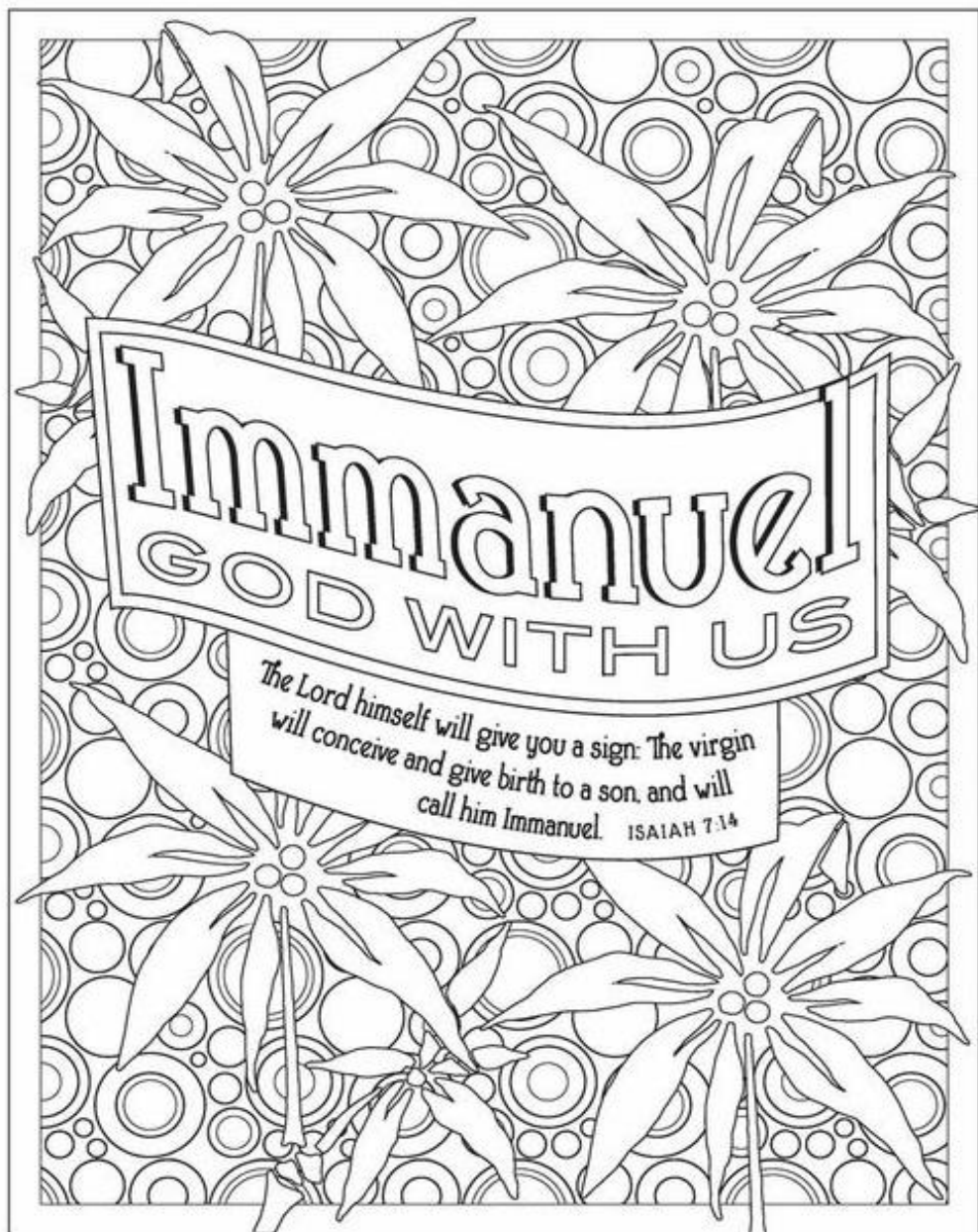


**Additional Activity: *PRAY IN COLOR***

**Choose one or both of the following pages to color: As you color, perhaps celebrate the coming of Christ. Celebrate Emmanuel, Christ with us, Christ in us all. "For Unto Us a Child is born. Unto us a Son is Given." [Isaiah 9:6-7](#)**



May this **Advent** be the start of a fresh, new journey with Jesus for the coming year, an unfolding experience of Emmanuel for you all.







# NAMES OF JESUS

## Christmas Ornament

### SVG CUT FILES



## Isaiah 9:1-7

### New Revised Standard Version

The Righteous Reign of the Coming King

**9** <sup>[a]</sup> But there will be no gloom for those who were in anguish. In the former time he brought into contempt the land of Zebulun and the land of Naphtali, but in the latter time he will make glorious the way of the sea, the land beyond the Jordan, Galilee of the nations.

**2** <sup>[a]</sup> The people who walked in darkness  
have seen a great light;  
those who lived in a land of deep darkness—



on them light has shined.

<sup>3</sup> You have multiplied the nation,

you have increased its joy;

they rejoice before you

as with joy at the harvest,

as people exult when dividing plunder.

<sup>4</sup> For the yoke of their burden,

and the bar across their shoulders,

the rod of their oppressor,

you have broken as on the day of Midian.

<sup>5</sup> For all the boots of the tramping warriors

and all the garments rolled in blood

shall be burned as fuel for the fire.

<sup>6</sup> For a child has been born for us,

a son given to us;

authority rests upon his shoulders;

and he is named

Wonderful Counselor, Mighty God,

Everlasting Father, Prince of Peace.

<sup>7</sup> His authority shall grow continually,

and there shall be endless peace

for the throne of David and his kingdom.

He will establish and uphold it

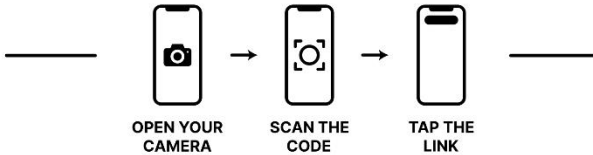
with justice and with righteousness

from this time onward and forevermore.

The zeal of the LORD of hosts will do this.

# Isaiah 9:6

WONDERFUL COUNSELOR,



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## Luke 1:30-31

### “Gabriel Visits Mary”

([Luke 1:26-38](#))

**Look around Mary's simple home and imagine an ordinary day filled with chores sprinkled with beautiful dreams of her upcoming marriage to Joseph.**

**Verse:** “The angel said to Mary, “The Holy Spirit will come upon you, and the power of the Most High will cover you. The baby will be holy. He will be called the Son of God.”

**Question:** If you felt like God was asking you to do something that seemed impossible and/or would change your life, how do you think you would respond?

**Pray Together:** Lord, please open my ears to hear your call and give me courage to go wherever and do whatever you are leading me to do...even when it seems impossible to me. Help me to trust Your plan for my life. Amen.

**Before you go, Take out your small scripture card that looks like this:**



**Find the feather attached to the back and as you remember this story, you can use this prayer card and feather to remember that our heavy troubles will always seem lighter when shared with God.**

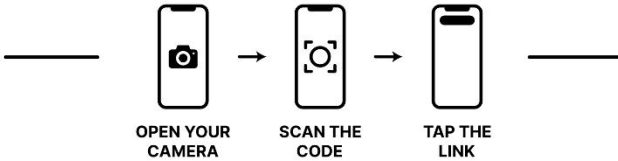
## **Luke 1:26-38**

### **New Revised Standard Version**

The Birth of Jesus Foretold

<sup>26</sup> In the sixth month the angel Gabriel was sent by God to a town in Galilee called Nazareth, <sup>27</sup> to a virgin engaged to a man whose name was Joseph, of the house of David. The virgin's name was Mary. <sup>28</sup> And he came to her and said, "Greetings, favored one! The Lord is with you."<sup>[a]</sup> <sup>29</sup> But she was much perplexed by his words and pondered what sort of greeting this might be. <sup>30</sup> The angel said to her, "Do not be afraid, Mary, for you have found favor with God. <sup>31</sup> And now, you will conceive in your womb and bear a son, and you will name him Jesus. <sup>32</sup> He will be great, and will be called the Son of the Most High, and the Lord God will give to him the throne of his ancestor David. <sup>33</sup> He will reign over the house of Jacob forever, and of his kingdom there will be no end." <sup>34</sup> Mary said to the angel, "How can this be, since I am a virgin?"<sup>[b]</sup> <sup>35</sup> The angel said to her, "The Holy Spirit will come upon you, and the power of the Most High will overshadow you; therefore the child to be born<sup>[c]</sup> will be holy; he will be called Son of God. <sup>36</sup> And now, your relative Elizabeth in her old age has also

conceived a son; and this is the sixth month for her who was said to be barren. <sup>37</sup> For nothing will be impossible with God." <sup>38</sup> Then Mary said, "Here am I, the servant of the Lord; let it be with me according to your word." Then the angel departed from her.



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## Angel Appears To Joseph In A Dream

**MATTHEW 1:20** ([Matthew 1:18-25](#))

**Verse:** “an angel of the Lord appeared to him in a dream and said, “Joseph, son of David, do not be afraid to take Mary as your wife, for the child conceived in her is from the Holy Spirit.”

**Have you ever had trouble sleeping because you had a problem that seemed like there was no good way to solve? Close your eyes and imagine Joseph's dream:**

**Ponder and talk about this question:** Name some problems that might keep you awake at night. Where would you turn for solutions?

**Pray Together:** Lord, please help us remember that You know EVERYTHING about our problems...even the parts we don't know or understand. We give them to You and ask You to lead us through. Amen.

# Matthew 1:18-25

## New Revised Standard Version

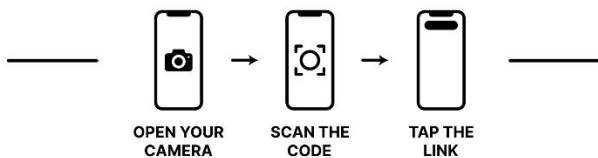
The Birth of Jesus the Messiah

<sup>18</sup> Now the birth of Jesus the Messiah<sup>[a]</sup> took place in this way. When his mother Mary had been engaged to Joseph, but before they lived together, she was found to be with child from the Holy Spirit. <sup>19</sup> Her husband Joseph, being a righteous man and unwilling to expose her to public disgrace, planned to dismiss her quietly. <sup>20</sup> But just when he had resolved to do this, an angel of the Lord appeared to him in a dream and said, "Joseph, son of David, do not be afraid to take Mary as your wife, for the child conceived in her is from the Holy Spirit. <sup>21</sup> She will bear a son, and you are to name him Jesus, for he will save his people from their sins." <sup>22</sup> All this took place to fulfill what had been spoken by the Lord through the prophet:

<sup>23</sup> "Look, the virgin shall conceive and bear a son,  
and they shall name him Emmanuel,"

which means, "God is with us." <sup>24</sup> When Joseph awoke from sleep, he did as the angel of the Lord commanded him; he took her as his wife, <sup>25</sup> but had no marital relations with her until she had borne a son;<sup>[b]</sup> and he named him Jesus





7



## Birth of Jesus

### Luke 2:7 ([Luke 2:1-7](#))

**Look around this Nursery. Do you see a place where a baby might sleep?**

**Verse:** “And she gave birth to her firstborn son and wrapped him in bands of cloth, and laid him in a manger, because there was no place for them in the inn.”

**Wonder about** the preparations that were made or that you would make in the future to welcome a new baby into your family. How is that different from the way that Mary and Joseph ended up welcoming Jesus into their family?

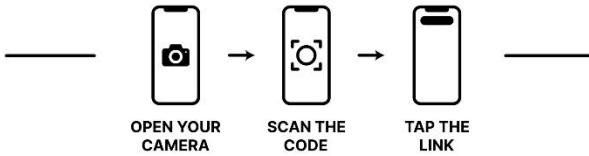
**Pray Together:** Lord, Your ways are so often very different from our expectations! Please open our eyes to what You are doing in our lives and in our hearts. Please help us to let go of *our* plans and welcome *Your* Plan. Amen.

## **Luke 2:1-7**

### **New Revised Standard Version**

#### The Birth of Jesus

**2** In those days a decree went out from Emperor Augustus that all the world should be registered. **2** This was the first registration and was taken while Quirinius was governor of Syria. **3** All went to their own towns to be registered. **4** Joseph also went from the town of Nazareth in Galilee to Judea, to the city of David called Bethlehem, because he was descended from the house and family of David. **5** He went to be registered with Mary, to whom he was engaged and who was expecting a child. **6** While they were there, the time came for her to deliver her child. **7** And she gave birth to her firstborn son and wrapped him in bands of cloth, and laid him in a manger, because there was no place for them in the inn.





# Angels Appear to Shepherds

## Luke 2:9

[\(Luke 2:8-14\)](#)

**In Jesus' day shepherds were not respected and were looked down upon as laborers who couldn't do anything else. They were probably the LAST ones people would have expected to be the FIRST ones to hear the good news that God's long awaited Savior had come!**

**Verse:** " Then an angel of the Lord stood before them, and the glory of the Lord shone around them, and they were terrified. "

**Ponder and talk about this question:** When you have an amazing experience do you keep it to yourself or tell everyone

who will listen? Have you told anyone about the REAL reason we celebrate Christmas?

**Pray together:** Jesus, thank you that you watch over us just like a shepherd watch over their flock. Amen.

**Additional Activity: As you travel/skip to the next station shout, "The Savior has been born!" and make some noise with your noisemaker provider!!**

## **Luke 2:8-14**

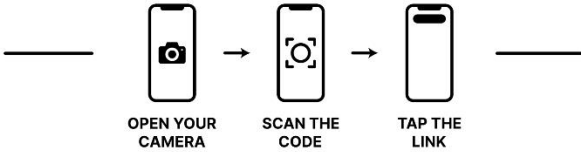
### **New Revised Standard Version**

### **The Shepherds and the Angels**

<sup>8</sup>In that region there were shepherds living in the fields, keeping watch over their flock by night. <sup>9</sup>Then an angel of the Lord stood before them, and the glory of the Lord shone around them, and they were terrified. <sup>10</sup>But the angel said to them, "Do not be afraid; for see—I am bringing you good news of great joy for all the people: <sup>11</sup>to you is born this day in the city of David a Savior, who is the Messiah,<sup>[a]</sup> the Lord. <sup>12</sup>This will be a sign for you: you will find a child wrapped in bands of cloth and lying in a manger." <sup>13</sup>And suddenly there was with the angel a multitude of the heavenly host,<sup>[b]</sup> praising God and saying,



14 "Glory to God in the highest heaven,  
and on earth peace among those whom he favors!"



9



## Visit Of The Magi

### Matthew 2:1-2 ([Matthew 2:1-12](#))

The 'Magi' or 'Wise Men' were foreigners who watched the stars for signs that something special was happening. They followed a special star that led them to the One they believed was born "the king of the Jews."

**Verse:** In the time of King Herod, after Jesus was born in Bethlehem of Judea, wise men<sup>(a)</sup> from the East came to Jerusalem, <sup>2</sup> asking, "Where is the child who has been born king of the Jews? For we observed his star at its rising,<sup>(b)</sup> and have come to pay him homage."

**Ponder this:** Have you accepted the most important Christmas gift ever given? Have you made Jesus your Lord and Savior?

**Pray together:** Lord, I know I have sin in my heart that separates me from You. Please forgive me. Please open my heart to receive You and Your amazing gift of love. You are



my Lord and my Savior...help me to live for You and with You forever. Please help me to recognize the opportunities you provide to tell others the Good News about Christ's birth and what it means...and please give me the courage to share the hope we have in You. Amen.

## **Additional Activity:**

### **Three Kings Snack Mix Recipe:**

**Camel and horse cookies, chocolates wrapped in gold foil as Gold, pineapple or apricots as Frankincense, raisins as Myrrh and fruit snacks for jewels to represent royalty come to worship the ultimate royalty... JESUS!**

## **Matthew 2:1-12**

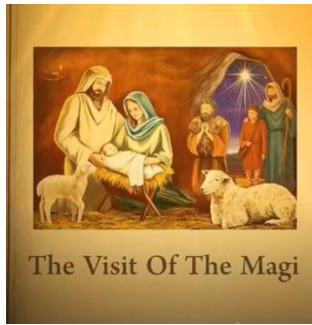
### **New Revised Standard Version**

#### **The Visit of the Wise Men**

2 In the time of King Herod, after Jesus was born in Bethlehem of Judea, wise men[a] from the East came to Jerusalem, 2 asking, "Where is the child who has been born king of the Jews? For we observed his star at its rising,[b] and have come to pay him homage." 3 When King Herod heard this, he was frightened, and all Jerusalem with him; 4 and calling together all the chief priests and scribes of the people, he inquired of them where the Messiah[c] was to be born. 5 They told him, "In Bethlehem of Judea; for so it has been written by the prophet:

6 'And you, Bethlehem, in the land of Judah,  
are by no means least among the rulers of Judah;  
for from you shall come a ruler  
who is to shepherd[d] my people Israel.'"

7 Then Herod secretly called for the wise men[e] and learned from them the exact time when the star had appeared. 8 Then he sent them to Bethlehem, saying, "Go and search diligently for the child; and when you have found him, bring me word so that I may also go and pay him homage." 9 When they had heard the king, they set out; and there, ahead of them, went the star that they had seen at its rising,[f] until it stopped over the place where the child was. 10 When they saw that the star had stopped,[g] they were overwhelmed with joy. 11 On entering the house, they saw the child with Mary his mother; and they knelt down and paid him homage. Then, opening their treasure chests, they offered him gifts of gold, frankincense, and myrrh. 12 And having been warned in a dream not to return to Herod, they left for their own country by another road.



## The Visit of The Magi



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BANNER