Interactive Group Activities by Carol Williams & Charles Kirkpatrick

Sermon Title: "Seeking the Savior"

Scripture Reading: Matthew 2:1-12

STAR ART: Give each child a BIG poster board yellow STAR cut out (or children can cut it out if time allows) and have them trace, draw or glue on typed out words for WISE MEN STILL SEEK THE SAVIOR! Hole punch the top and give children a ribbon to hang their star at home! One of the big STARS could be hung in the classroom or on the SS classroom door.

DIRECTIONS GAME: Blindfold a child and have the other class members try to take turns to give the blindfolded child DIRECTIONS to find a certain object in the designated area!!! The BIBLE should be the OBJECT to find.... and children can take turns giving a direction to step 4 stePs. forward; 2 stePs. to the left; 1 step forward; 8 stePs. back, etc. Take turns blindfolding as time allows. Discussion about "directions" in our story today!

BIBLE TREASURE HUNT: Wad up a section of a brown grocery bag to make it wrinkle. Draw a simple treasure map of your SS designated area for the children to follow the areas and numbers that they will follow as they "follow the map" to find the BIBLE object that has been hidden! Discuss getting GOD's directions for our lives! If the class is large enough, two maPs. could be written on and two teams could search for the TREASURE!

STARS & CROWNS BIBLE VERSE HUNT: Have children HUNT to find the stars and crowns with words from our Bible verse today that the children can FIND and then bring back and put in order on a large poster board. Hang the Bible verse poster on the wall for children to read and memorize. Making the Bible verse on both stars and crowns will make a fun and interesting poster for the children! (Bible verse could be shortened to "We saw his star in the east and have come to wroship him, Matthew 1:2).

WORSHIP CROWN: Have children cut out a copy of a crown and write

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WORSHIP THE KING with Matthew 1:1-2 written underneath those words. Children can wear their crown while studying the Bible story. Decorate the edges of the crown with many colorful stars stickers!!!

TREASURES CUPCAKE: Have a cupcake for each child. Have children HUNT for a candy called TREASURES (can be purchased at any store that sells candy, usually) and place the candy on top of their cupcake to take home and ENJOY! Discussion about the TREASURE that we have in GOD's Word... the BIBLE! Sing the B-I-B-L-E but sing it with words like "The B-I-B-L-E, a "treasure it is for me", I stand alone on the "treasures" of God, the B-I-B-L-E!!"

BIBLE DIRECTIONS: Have children go on a HUNT in the Bible for some verses that give us "directions"!

OPTION 1: Younger children would have less verses to look for, depending on time, or teacher could have a book marker in a few verses that the younger ones could help turn the page to and then have the teacher read it to them:

OPTION 2: Older children could do BIBLE DIRECTIONS like a sword drill to see who can get their "directions" the quickest. Sometimes there are children who could just never win at being first to find the scripture, so the teacher could have each child put a little book marker in their scripture when they find it, but it wouldn't be a contest to find it FIRST?! If a little bookmark strip of paper is put in each reference, then the children can be encouraged to go home during the week and read those "directions" over once again! Here are a few ideas for scriptures to use: I Chronicles 16:11; Ps.alm 25:9; Ps. 25:12, Ps. 32:8, Ps. 37:4, 7; Ps. 37:23; Ps. 48:14; Ps. 119:105; Prov 1:33, 2:6-9,3:5-6,16:9, 4:1, 8:32-33, 20:11; Isaiah 30:21, 50:4, 48:17,58:11; Jeremiah 29:11; Matthew 6:33, Luke 11:9-10; John 8:12, 16:13; James 1:5, Ex. 20:12, Deuteronomy 6:6-17,18; Deut. 12:28; Leviticus 19:3, etc.

Song: "We Three Kings of Orient Are" - John H. Hopkins, Jr.

Song Sheet - (PDF)

Piano Accompaniment (MP3)

Song: "The B - I - B - L - E " - Composer Unknown

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Song Sheet (PDF)

Piano Accompaniment (MP3)

About Carol Williams

Carol and her husband have served churches in Illinois, Minnesota, Mississippi, Michigan, and Indiana. Carol loves to work with children so you will find her teaching in Junior Church and children's Sunday School. She also has clowning ministry in which she is known as Bubbles tc (the clown).

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