



Do you SEE the SIGNS?  
13.12.20

**kidmania™**

## NOTE TO PARENTS from Ps Luke Aiasecca

Thank you for the privilege of ministering to your family through Kidmania Online. Today's Kidmania Online episode was **Do you SEE the SIGNS?**

Using this parent info sheet at home to support your Kidmania experience WITH your child will help them to get the most out of the episode. You might choose to do it in one sitting, or you might need a few sessions over the week to get through it; you can pace yourself through it as you choose. Even if you did not lead your child through the whole discussion; reading through it yourself will PREPARE YOU well to: use what you feel would be most valuable for you and your family; help you facilitate discussion; and answer some of the big questions that kids ask. 😊

The *Main Ideas* section has been designed especially for you, to enter into meaningful *Discussion* with your child; to guide you in what you can *Say* and *Ask*, to actively build faith and wisdom into them. Points and questions build on one another, so there is great value in leading your child through it. We have added a next level which is highlighted - skip it if you feel it is too much for your child's developmental level. The lesson will still progress well if you skip the **highlighted areas**. To help your child really share what's in their heart and mind, when it comes to *Ask* points, take care to not rush them... give them time to really think and respond. Really show them you are listening and understanding. We've also added *Life Application* points, a *Sum Up* point, and sample *Prayer*.

We are here to support you! If you have any questions you would like to discuss please contact your location Kidmania co-ordinator or email me at [luke.aiasecca@enjoy.church](mailto:luke.aiasecca@enjoy.church) God bless you!



### Family Ice Breaker – See it & Aim for it!

This is a fun way to introduce what you will be talking about as a family.

Today we watched as Noah and Lauryn competed to 'recognise', 'aim for', and hit signs on a board with little beanbags.

**You might like to do this at home.**

You could do as we did and stick some signs on a board. If you don't have beanbags you could fill a few balloons with rice and tie them off.

Whatever you do, have fun!



### 1. THIS WEEK - read through Matthew 2:1-12 together

In today's episode we used images from the Comic Bible **BIBLEFORCE** to help tell the story of the journey of the wise men to see the new born King Jesus. We highly recommend it. It is available in Koorong Bookstores. In the Bible it is found in Matthew 2:1-12. You might like to read the story again together from a Bible you have at home.

### 2. Scripture Memory Verses - to read & memorise at meal times

[ use any version you like; we have used a combination of versions/translations/paraphrases to help your child best understand the meaning of the passages and apply it to their lives NOW ]

#### Isaiah 7:11

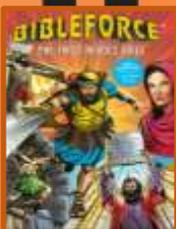
"Ask for a sign for yourself from the LORD your God because then He will convince you that He has spoken, and will keep His word..."

#### Luke 2:11-12

For this day in the city of David there has been born for you a Savior, who is Christ the Lord (the Messiah). And this will be a sign for you (so that you will recognize Him): you will find this Baby Jesus wrapped in swaddling cloths, and lying in a manger."

#### I Samuel 10:7

When these signs come to you, do for yourself whatever the situation requires; God is with you.





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## The Main Ideas for Family Discussion

### Discussion introduction:

**Say:** Signs get our attention and tell us something important, so we can make good choices and know what to do next - and sometimes what to NOT do.

**Ask:** What are some signs you see often? [ *they could be along the road, in the shopping centres, and inside other buildings, etc. ]*

**Say:** When you have seen these signs, have they been helpful to you?

**If YES, ask:** How have they been helpful to you?

**Say:** Yes. Signs have been very helpful to me.

\* When I'm in the car and I see them along the road they tell me how far away a place is that I'm driving to, which street/road I'm on - as well as when to turn into the one I want to drive on next - and how fast I can safely drive.

\* When I go to the train station signs tell me the number of the platform, where the train is going, and what time it is leaving.

\* When I am in places I don't know well signs tell me where a toilet is when I really need one (before I have an accident).

\* When I am very hungry they tell me where the supermarket and the food court is.

\* When I am in the shopping centre they tell me which aisle the chocolate bars are in, and when I am in a takeaway shop they tell me what I can order and how much it will cost me. Some signs warn me that the floor is slippery (so I can be more careful) or if there is a hazard to avoid (a hazard is something to watch out for that could be dangerous or cause an accident).

Signs are everywhere!

**Ask:** When I was telling you about all those signs, were you seeing them in your mind? Yes, you have seen them before too, haven't you?

**Ask:** Do you think you might notice signs everywhere even more now that we have been thinking about them together?

**Ask:** Did you know that God gives us signs too?

**Ask:** Are God's signs like the signs we see along the road, and in shopping centres, buildings, and stations? [ *No* ]

**Say:** God could use those signs at the right time to help us - and it is wise to obey signs because they are usually there for a good reason (even though we don't like the 'please be quiet' sign in the library) but... usually God's signs are not on sticks, stuck on doors and walls, or hanging from the ceiling.

**Ask:** Can you think of some signs that God has given people, in the Bible, to get their attention and help them to know where to go and what to do?

**Ask:** Can you remember why we have rainbows?

**Say:** Rainbows get our attention and remind us that once a very long time ago God had to send a big flood to stop the very serious sinning of everyone in the whole world...everyone except one man (Noah) and his family. After that God made a promise that He will never give a judgement/punishment like that again. So, a rainbow reminds us that God is a very good judge, a very good protector of those who love Him (the ark), and that there will never be a flood like that again. God wants us to remember this whenever we see a rainbow.

**Ask:** Can you remember the Bible story from today's episode?

**If YES, say:** Tell me all about it, and tell me as many details as you can remember.



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...continued - the Main Ideas for Family Discussion

### Going deeper – unpacking the WORD!

Scripture: Matthew 2:1-12

Say: In Matthew 2:1-12 it says:

Now when Jesus was born in Bethlehem of Judea, in the days of ‘King Herod the Great’, magi (wise men) from the east came to Jerusalem, asking, “Where is He who has been born King of the Jews? For we have seen His star in the east and have come to worship Him.”

When Herod the king heard this, he was disturbed, and all Jerusalem with him. So, he called together all the chief priests and scribes of the people and anxiously asked them where the Christ (the Messiah, the Anointed One) was to be born.

They replied to him, “In Bethlehem of Judea, for this is what has been written by the prophet Micah: ‘And you, little town of Bethlehem, in the land of Judah, are not in any way the least important among the towns and cities made by the great leaders of Judah; because from you shall come a ruler Who will shepherd My people Israel.’”

Then, Herod secretly sent for the magi and learned from them the exact time the star had first appeared. Then, he sent them to Bethlehem, saying, “Go and search carefully for the Child; and when you have found Him, report to me, so that I too may come and worship Him.”

After hearing the king, they went on their way; and behold, the star, which they had seen in the east, went on before them, continually leading the way, until it came and stood over the place where the young Child Jesus was.

When they saw the star, they rejoiced exceedingly with great joy. And after entering the house, they saw the Child with Mary His mother; and they fell down and worshiped Him.

Then, after opening their treasure chests, they presented to Him gifts that were fit for a king. They were gold, frankincense, and myrrh. And having been warned by God, in a dream, not to go back to Herod, the magi left for their own country by another way.

**Ask:** What did you like best about this true story?

**Ask:** What do you imagine things would have looked like?

**Ask:** How would you have felt if you were the wise men looking up into the sky and seeing the sign (the star – exactly where it was supposed to be, knowing what it meant)?

**Ask:** How did King Herod feel learning about a ruler being born that a prophet had told about hundreds of years earlier?

[ He felt threatened. He was scared he would lose his power, etc. ]

**Ask:** Did King Herod really intend to go and worship Jesus?

[ No, he just wanted to know where Jesus was so he could look for Him and kill Him before He grew up and took the job of king ]

**Ask:** What was the first sign God gave the Wise Men (Magi)?

[ The star that was promised ]

**Ask:** What was the next sign God gave the Wise Men (Magi)?

[ A dream to warn them about King Herod ]

**Ask:** What gifts did the Wise Men bring King Jesus?

[ Gold, Frankincense, and Myrrh ]





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...continued - the Main Ideas for Family Discussion

**Ask:** What is **Gold**?

**Say:** Gold is very expensive, precious, shiny, yellow metal. It soft enough to be easy to work with, but it keeps together and it stays shiny for a long time. It doesn't get rusty when it gets wet. It doesn't tarnish (get marks on it and need constant polishing) like silver does. We see it most today in jewelry. Gold is what our coins and notes (money) represent today, so we don't need to carry a lot of gold around with us. There was a lot of gold in the Temple, and on the Arc of the Covenant. Gold could be used to make solid objects or to plate (cover) objects. Gold can even be made into sheets, as light and thin as Bible paper, and pressed onto things to make them very special. There are even very old Bibles and Scrolls with gold leaf pressed onto some pages.

**Ask:** There was a spiritual meaning of giving Gold to Jesus - do you know what it is?

**Say:** Gold is the precious metal of kings - a symbol of kingship on earth. In giving the gold to Jesus the wise men were giving their own sign that Jesus was the King!

**Ask:** What is **Frankincense**?

**Say:** Frankincense is a resin/sap from the Boswellia tree. It has a really nice, woody, spicy scent (smell). It can be used to make Frankincense oil which is one of the best oils of all. People have called it 'liquid gold' because it is so good. Frankincense can be steeped to make a healthy tea to drink.

**Say:** Frankincense can be made into incense, which makes a very nice smelling smoke. It was often used for incense in the Temple as a sign... it helped people to understand that their prayers rise to Heaven and God hears them. In giving the Frankincense to Jesus the wise men were giving their own sign that Jesus was a deity - they understood He was more than an earthly, human king - He was the King of kings, and Lord of lords - He was God on earth as a human. They worshiped Him because he was King and God, and our High Priest!

**Ask:** What is **Myrrh**?

**Say:** Myrrh is a resin too, and it is produced by a very thorny plant whenever it gets damaged. It is very good because it is a natural medicine, and pain killer. It was MOST used to make embalming oil - and so it was mostly a symbol of death.

**Say:** It is important to know this because by giving Myrrh to Jesus the wise men were giving his family something very helpful (natural medicine, if they needed it) and another sign - that in the future this King Jesus would be a sacrifice given for us. He would be beaten up and then He would die, in the place of every sinner (which is everyone) so that everyone who believes in Him would have all their pain and suffering taken away (when they go to Heaven to live with Him forever). And, when Jesus grew up He would heal people's hearts and bodies as a sign that He was the Messiah (the one who came to save the people from their sins).

**Say:** Jesus was born so that He could go to the cross, die for us, be buried, then be raised to life, go to Heaven, and then come back again for those who love Him. That's us! It was all in God's great plan that the Wise Men gave the Myrrh as a sign. And they worshipped Him because He was to be the Lamb of God, the perfect sacrifice for us.

**Ask:** So what sign did God give the Wise Men to help them find Jesus? [ *Star* ]

**Ask:** And, what signs did the Wise Men give that showed they knew little Jesus was a King, who is Divine (God on earth), and our most High Priest, and the sacrifice sent to die for us? [ *Gold, Frankincense, and Myrrh* ]





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...continued - the Main Ideas for Family Discussion



**Ask:** What are some of the **signs you see at Christmas time** that tell you about Jesus? [ Candy canes, presents, carols being sung, lights, angel/star at the top of the Christmas tree, etc. ]

**Say:** We see Candy canes (shaped like a shepherd's hook)... they remind us how the shepherds went to visit baby Jesus, and that Jesus is our good shepherd. We see presents... they remind us about the Wise Men giving special presents to King Jesus. We see angels on the tops of Christmas trees... they remind us of the angels who told the shepherds where to find King Jesus, so they could worship Him and then tell everyone all about Him. We see stars... they remind us of the star that led the Wise Men to Baby King Jesus. We hear, and sing along to, the Christmas carols (songs) that tell about King Jesus being born, and help us to think of and worship Him.



**Life Application: Special note to parents about emphasising Jesus**

Encourage your child to not be distracted by the Santa songs (and images) - all these good things (presents and celebrations) come from the LORD and through you (the parents) because God loves them and you love them. They do not come through a mythical Santa.

We want God to have the glory (credit) for these things, and not give it away to worldly imaginative characters that work against a child's knowledge and love of God - who is your child truly most excited about at Christmas? Santa, or King Jesus?

Children know how to answer this question because they know they are expected to love Jesus most, and they know what we want to hear... and they may sincerely wish they loved Jesus most. We understand that kids really do love presents so we can hardly blame them if they have faith and love for Santa more than Jesus - they see a false evidence of him being in practice the most good to them, every year. If they believe their goodies come from Santa they can't help but love Santa. Perhaps the most special present they receive this year, should be wrapped and tagged, 'from King Jesus', and the rest from you. All must make way for Jesus because He is so worthy of our love and praise, and worship, and He should always be first - because He is GOD. He is the only way to be saved, He is the only judge of good and bad (not Santa) and he does not want us or our children to have other gods or idols that are loved more than Him, or even along with Him, because it is idolatry.

You might also like to wear crowns this Christmas, instead of Santa hats, in honor of King Jesus. He is worthy of this honor. And, selecting Christmas songs and movies that are not Santa focused can be helpful in refocusing kids' hearts and minds on Jesus at Christmas time. Just something to think about. 😊



**Ask:** Can you think of any other Christmas signs that point us to Jesus? [ crowns, feasting, nativity scenes on display, the words JOY, HOPE, and PEACE on display etc. ]

**Ask:** What's your favorite Christmas sign?

**Ask:** Do you think you will be even more aware of all the signs that point to Jesus now?

**Ask:** What's your favorite Christmas carol/song about King Jesus?

Allow time for them to think of a song (or songs) and sing to you - this is a special moment, really enjoy it, and let them know that as they sang about Jesus to you it really blessed your heart... you could share the names of some of these songs if they are having trouble thinking of a song - many will be familiar to them.

- |                      |                              |  |
|----------------------|------------------------------|--|
| * Away in a Manger   | * The Little Drummer Boy     | * While Shepherds Watched Their Flocks |
| * Mary's Boy Child   | * Mary's Boy Child           | * It Came Upon a Midnight Clear        |
| * Mary Did You Know? | * O Holy Night, Silent Night | * Hark! The Herald Angels Sing         |
| * What Child is This | * Oh Come All Ye Faithful    | * Angels We Have Heard on High         |
| * The First Noel     | * Go Tell it on the Mountain | * We Shall Reign Forever More          |
| * Joy to the World   | * We Three Kings             | * God Rest Ye Merry Gentlemen          |
| * Jerusalem          | * Once in David's Royal City |  |





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...continued - the Main Ideas for Family Discussion

### Life Application: the Jesus Christmas Song Playlist

**Ask:** Would you like to create a Jesus Christmas Songs list with me to fill our house and our car with the Jesus Christmas songs you really love?

**If NO:** Just do it yourself, and play it - it will be a blessing to your family and your child might like to add to it later, or next year - you lead how you would like them to go. Let your child know you are going to do it, and they can join you if they change their mind.

**If YES, say:** We could look up all these songs, and decide which versions we like best. We could make it a tradition in our family, to play the playlist each Christmas and add to it each year. [ many of the Jesus Christmas songs present the Gospel clearly. It is wonderful to be ministered to through music. There are many popular and Christian artists who have released Christmas singles and albums so there are Christmas songs for all musical tastes. ]

**And ask:** When shall we do it?

[ Set a day & time for this special Christmas memory maker. ]

### Going deeper - applying the main points

**Say:** Here are 3 things we can learn from the Wise Men:

**Say:** 1. God's signs bring us CLOSER to Jesus.

**Ask:** Have you ever found yourself distracted (busy thinking about or doing something else) when it is time to pray or worship Jesus?

**Ask:** Have you ever seen something that makes you think of Jesus and then focus on Him again?

**If YES, ask:** What is it?

**Share:** a story of your own about this. We all get distracted so it should not be difficult to think of an example. It could be setting an alarm in your phone to remind you to do devotion, or having worship music/Christmas Carols on more often so that as you are going about your day you can be thinking about and talking to Jesus.

### Life Application: Make a List!

**Say:** Let's make a little list of those things so that we know to use those things to help us to focus on Jesus.

**Say:** 2. God's signs lead us to WORSHIP Him.

**Say:** When God is trying to get your attention it means He already is paying attention to you. Think about it... the God of the universe, who made everything, and the most powerful and loving and important living being ever is caring about you.

**Ask:** Knowing this; how do you feel when you know that God wants your attention?  
[ special, loved, etc. ]

**Ask:** Do you think we should give Him our love and attention? [ Yes! ]

**Say:** When we respond to God, giving Him our attention and love, and wanting to do as He is leading us to do; then we are truly worshiping Him. Anything that leads us away from Jesus is not a sign from God. Anything that gets our attention and leads us to worship Jesus is a sign from God.

**Say:** The Wise Men showed worship to Jesus by being generous.

**Ask:** What ways can we be generous to God?





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...continued - the Main Ideas for Family Discussion



### Life Application: Make a List!

**Say:** Let's make a little list of some ways to be generous to Jesus - and really treat Him like He is King, because He is!

[ We can generously give Him joyful obedience to His commands (rather than grumpy obedience). We can be generous and forgiving to others because this is sometimes hard to do and as Jesus knows this it makes Him especially happy when we do it for His sake. We can make sure that we give some money to church and other charities that show His kindness to people who really need some extra care. And, we can spend just a little bit extra time talking with Him each time - Jesus loves it when we talk with Him. You might have some more ideas! ]



### **Say: 3. If God had a sign for them, He will have a sign for YOU!**

**Ask:** How does God speak to you? Have you ever seen some signs from God just for you?

**Say:** Sometimes the Word of God (in the Bible) is enough of a sign for us to know what the right and good thing to do is. Sometimes the sign is in the timing of what we are reading or hearing from the Word.

**Ask:** Have you ever come to a place in the Bible, or heard a sermon, at the exact time that you really needed to hear from God on that exact subject/issue?

**Say:** You might think that it is as if God is talking directly to you! You would be right! God is always speaking to you through His Word and through those who preach His Word. He wants us to pay attention and follow what He is saying to us.

**Ask:** We can ask for very particular signs, just for us, as well.

### Scripture: Isaiah 7:11

**Say:** In Isaiah 7:11 it says: **"Ask for a sign for yourself from the LORD your God because then He will convince you that He has spoken, and will keep His word..."**

**Say:** If we privately ask God for a sign and agree with Him what it will be, and what it will mean, then when we see it, we can know that it is from God. It might need to be a bit unusual so that WE won't confuse an ordinary thing with being a sign from God. If God is giving the sign, then we know we can trust it. We know that whatever God asks us to do, that He will be with us in it, and help us.

**Ask:** How else can we check that a sign is from God?

**Say:** There are 4 ways we can check that a sign is from God:

- \* We can check with the Word of God (the Bible) to make sure the Bible agrees with the sign we believe we are seeing. If it goes against the Bible it is NOT a sign from God. If it agrees with the Bible then it is more likely to be a sign from God.
- \* We can pray more and ask God for another sign (not the same as the first one).
- \* We can also be praying for God to give peace to our hearts and minds if it is right, and not let us have peace if it isn't (the uneasy feeling that says NO)
- \* We can talk with someone we know really loves Jesus and has learned how to hear from God. By sharing our question and what has happened so far they can pray to discern (be able to tell) what God is saying and either confirm the sign (say it is right) or say it is not right. They might also give some very wise advice.





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...continued - the Main Ideas for Family Discussion

### Life Application: Make a List!

**Ask:** Can you think of some wise people in your life you could speak with?

[ if they are having some trouble thinking of people other than yourself, family members, their Christian teacher, or their church leader then suggest some people whom you trust to speak into their life, and if they have listed a person they think is wise and you don't agree, think about how to gently speak into that - how you love the person but don't agree they are wise yet. Help them to make the list. If they are people you trust then let them know you have had this conversation with your child and that some time in the future they make talk with them. ]

**Scripture:** Luke 2:11-12

**Say:** In Luke 2:11-12 it says: **For this day in the city of David there has been born for you a Savior, who is Christ the Lord (the Messiah). And this will be a sign for you (so that you will recognize Him): you will find this Baby Jesus wrapped in swaddling cloths, and lying in a manger."**

**Ask:** If God will do this for lowly shepherds; do you think God would be happy to get your attention, give you a sign, and send you to talk to other people about Jesus? [ Yes! ]

**Say:** When God sends you He will always make sure you know when to do it (a sign) and that you will be able to do what He has given you to do (ability).

**Ask:** How would the shepherds know where to find baby King Jesus? [ they would find Him wrapped in swaddling cloths, in a manger which was a feeding trough for animals (pronounced: troff) - this was a very good hint that King Jesus was in a stable somewhere in the town of Bethlehem. ]

**Ask:** Do you think they rushed right away to find Him? [ Yes! ]

**Scripture:** I Samuel 10:7

**Say:** In 1 Samuel 10:7 God assured King Saul through the prophet Samuel: **"When these signs come to you, do for yourself whatever the situation requires; God is with you."**

**Say:** God will be with you too...He is always with you!

### Sum up - the Kidmania 'do you see the signs?' Trivia Quiz!

[ Answers are underlined ]

1. What should you do when you see a sign from God?

- Read it and do the opposite
- Ignore it
- Follow it
- Draw on it

2. A rainbow is a sign that...

- You need to take the dog for a walk
- God will never judge the world with a big flood again
- The animals need to gather 2 by 2
- It is time to eat lollies

3. When the wise men saw the star they knew it was time to...

- Bake a birthday cake
- Take a photo
- Put the kettle on for a cup of tea (and a biscuit!)
- Travel to see the new born king





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*...continued - the Main Ideas for Family Discussion*

**4. The Magi were known as the wise men because...**

- a. They ate lots of Maggi Noodles
- b. They performed magic tricks at kids' parties
- c. They read dictionaries and encyclopedias for fun
- d. They understood the signs from God, and followed them

**5. What were the gifts the wise men brought to Jesus?**

- a. Gold, silver, and emeralds
- b. Gold, Frankincense, and Myrrh
- c. His friends; Cole, Franklin, and Moira
- d. 5 gold rings, 4 colling birds, 3 French hens, 2 turtle doves & a partridge in a pear tree

**6. Signs from God will always...**

- a. Get our attention
- b. Tell us what God wants us to know and do
- c. Bring us closer to Jesus
- d. Lead us to worship
- e. All of the above

**Let's Pray!**

Dear Heavenly Father...

Thank You for all the signs you send me, to get my attention and point me to Jesus.  
Help me to pay attention to them, and follow them, like the Wise Men did.

In Jesus' Name. Amen!

**A PICTURE paints a thousand words!**

[ You might like to ask your child to use this space to draw a picture that tells you what they have learned today ]

