SEASON 28 GODReads!

MONTH 3 Star Search

DESSERT IDEA:

Star Shaped Sugar Cookies

CANDY IDEA:

Starbursts or Starlight Peppermints

ICE BREAKER:

Name the Star from Star Search Search the internet for photos of celebrities from the 80s talent show.

Star Search Hide 12 stars about the room (give parameters). On each star write one of the verses in this month's Scripture Writing. See who can find the most stars and then take turns reading the Scripture verses.

RESOURCES & LINKS:





SERVING • CONNECTING • SHARING

1. FUN: THE PROGRAM

Choose from one of the following or create your own.

- Make a list of the "5 star gifts to give this season." Then allow your guest to share their suggestions. Or if weather permits, meet under the stars around a campfire and discuss favorite Christmas memories and Christmas carols.
- 2. Invite an amateur astronomer to share about this year's celestial events **and/or** set up a telescope for everyone to look through.
- 3. Make/decorate a star shaped Christmas ornament. **Or** decorate star shaped cookies. **Or** have a gift exchange. Have everyone bring one gift and be sure to have a few extras on hand for new guests. Be sure to give a price limit (keep it affordable).

Choose from one or more of these ideas for conversation starters:

- Share a favorite stargazing memory.
- What is something that you have searched for and you couldn't do anything else until you found it?
- Is there anything you are currently searching for?

DEEPER DISCUSSION

The real Star is Jesus. He is the light of the world. People search the world high and low for purpose and meaning, revelation and direction.

History is full of people searching for something deeper in their lives. This month's devotion is about the wise men who found Jesus with the help of a star and a 1,000 year old prophesy.

Numbers 24:17

I see him, but not now; I behold him, but not near. A star will come out of Jacob; a scepter will rise out of Israel. He will crush the foreheads of Moab, the skulls of all the people of Sheth.

2. FAITHFULNESS:

The Star of The Show

This month's Scripture is about Magi (wise men) and can be found in Numbers 24:17, Micah 5:2 and Matthew 2:1-12.

Isaiah 9:6

For to us a child is born, to us a son is given, and the government will be on his shoulders. And he will be called Wonderful Counselor, Mighty God, Everlasting Father, Prince of Peace.

When we think about the birth of Christ and the Old Testament prophecies about Christ, we usually think about Isaiah and verses like Isaiah 9:6, but what you may not know is that there are anywhere from 200-400 prophecies in the Old Testament that were fulfilled by Jesus' birth, life, death and resurrection.

This prophecy found in Hebrew Scripture, and now in Numbers, brought the Magi to King Herod in Jerusalem, inquiring where they could find the Messiah after they saw the star. The Magi wished to worship Christ, but this upset Herod. He sent for the chief priests and teachers of the law to ask them where the Messiah was to be born.

Micah 5:2

"But you, Bethlehem Ephrathah, though you are small among the clans of Judah, out of you will come for me one who will be ruler over Israel, whose origins are from of old, from ancient times."

They determined from this writing from the prophet Micah, also found in the Old Testament today, that the Messiah would be born in Bethlehem.

Herod then tells the Magi to go and let him know when they have found the child so that he may go and worship him too. When they arrived at the house where Jesus was, they saw the child with his mother Mary, and immediately bowed down and worshiped him.

What do you like about this story? What bothers you about the story? Who do you identify with in this story? Where do you see God in this story?

In this story, we see God's Word drawing people from every nation to Jesus when He is still just a child. God's plan of redemption and salvation was prophesied hundreds of years before the birth of Christ, and we can read about it in the Old Testament. God still uses this and the rest of His Word to draw new believers to Him today.

SWEET EXTRA

The Bible actually doesn't say how many Magi visited Jesus. It is assumed there were three because three gifts were given. All three gifts were significant and fit for a King.

3. CLOSING SCRIPT:

Read Your Bible, Girl!

This devotion is a true story featuring real people and comes from one or more of God's 66 books of the Bible. While it's fun to have fellowship with other ladies and to learn new things, nothing has ever changed my life like God's Word.

The Holy Bible tells us that while we were all sinners, Christ died for us. Through the cross of Jesus, God reconciles us to Himself and restores us to how we were meant to be. This gift of redemption promises eternal life and transforms us from the inside-out. But like all gifts, it must be accepted. If you have not accepted this gift from God, please contact me. I'd love to speak with you and answer any questions you may have.

I encourage you to follow along with this month's Scripture Writing, and read the story for yourself. Ask God what He would like to show you in His life-changing Word.

SCRIPTURE WRITING: CHRISTMAS



Sweet Scripture Writing

As we countdown the days to Christmas, join us in reading and writing God's Word down every day, meditating on it, and writing it on your heart. Look up, read and write each of these prophecies fulfilled by Jesus' birth, life and death.

Day 1	Genesis 22:18	Day 16	lsaiah 61:1
Day 2	Numbers 24:17	Day 17	Zechariah 9:9
Day 3	lsaiah 11:1	Day 18	Zechariah 11:13
Day 4	Jeremiah 23:5-6	Day 19	Exodus 12:21-23
Day 5	Micah 5:2	Day 20	Numbers 9:12
Day 6	Isaiah 7:14	Day 21	Leviticus 17:11
Day 7	Isaiah 9:6-7	Day 22	Numbers 21:9
Day 8	Psalm 72:10	Day 23	Psalm 16:10
Day 9	Jeremiah 31:15	Day 24	Psalm 22:8
Day 10	Hosea 11:1	Day 25	Psalm 22:15
Day 11	Psalm 40:6-8	Day 26	Psalm 22:16
Day 12	2 Samuel 7:12-13	Day 27	Psalm 22:18
Day 13	Isaiah 9:1-2	Day 28	Psalm 31:5
Day 14	Isaiah 40:3-4	Day 29	Psalm 68:18
Day 15	Isaiah 42:1-4	Day 30	Psalm 69:21

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