

Matthew 2.¹⁻⁶

Wake up!

Wishing you a very



Who knows what 2021 is going to bring!

Certainly no one guessed what 2020 was going to be like!

Try drawing in the box below a picture (or pictures) which show what 2020 was like for you



A quick 2020 quiz!

Here are some of the big events of 2020 in pictures: write underneath each picture what the picture is all about



When people think about all that was going on in the world last year, it maybe makes them see how important the birth of Jesus was for us all!

Destination Bethlehem

This week's Bible passage is one you probably know well!

It's about people (we're not told how many there were) who travelled a long distance because they wanted to worship the King who'd been born.

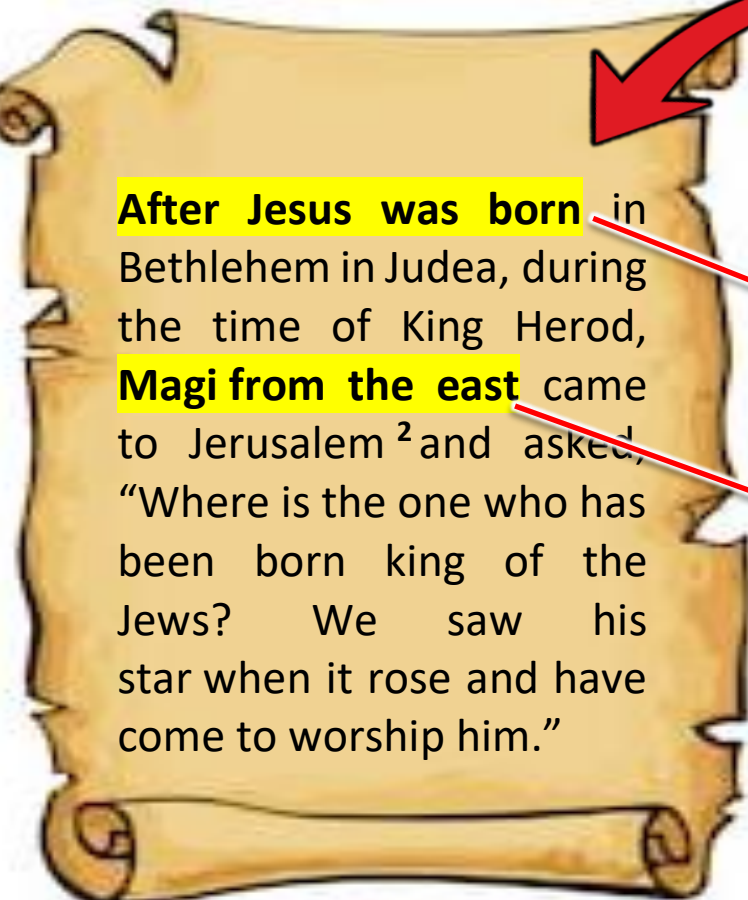
Or, put more simply, it's about **people coming to Jesus**. Which is what God wants us all to do!



This week we're just going to look at how that story begins.

Read

Matt.2.1-2



After Jesus was born in Bethlehem in Judea, during the time of King Herod, **Magi from the east** came to Jerusalem² and asked, "Where is the one who has been born king of the Jews? We saw his star when it rose and have come to worship him."

Here are some things you should note

"After Jesus was born ..."

That probably means a good long time after Jesus was born – not a few moments, or even a few days: but maybe as much as a couple of years.

"Magi from the east ..."

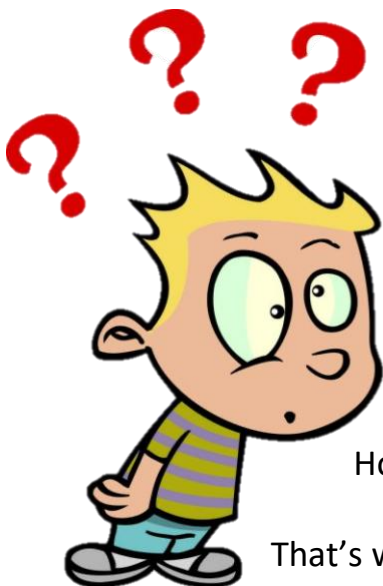
The Magi quite probably came from what is modern-day Iraq.

They read lots of books, listened carefully to what teachers in the past had said, and studied the stars.

They were trying to make sense of life!

Waking up...!

Today we're going to think a bit about how people 'wake up' to the fact that Jesus is King!



Your parents may be people who woke up a long time ago to the fact that Jesus is King: and so you may have been taught about Jesus from the day you were born!

But what about people who've never really heard that much about Jesus?

How are they going to 'wake up' to the fact that Jesus is King?

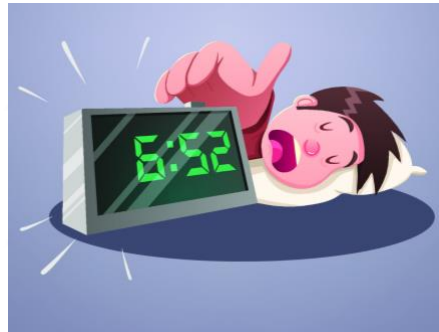
That's where the story of the 'Magi' can help us But first





How do you like to be woken up in the morning?

Put a ✓ in the box which is your favourite way of being woken up: and mark with an X any ways of being woken up which you really do not like!



A loud alarm clock ringing noisily

A digital clock which buzzes and flashes

The bright lights in your bedroom being turned on

A cockerel outside your window going cock-a-doodle-doo



Waking up quite naturally

Your pet clambering all over you

Having some water splashed over you

Your Mum singing to you and stroking your head

God has lots of different ways of waking people up!

In the Bible we're told that

“He is patient with you, not wanting anyone to perish, but everyone to come to repentance”

(2 Peter 3.9)

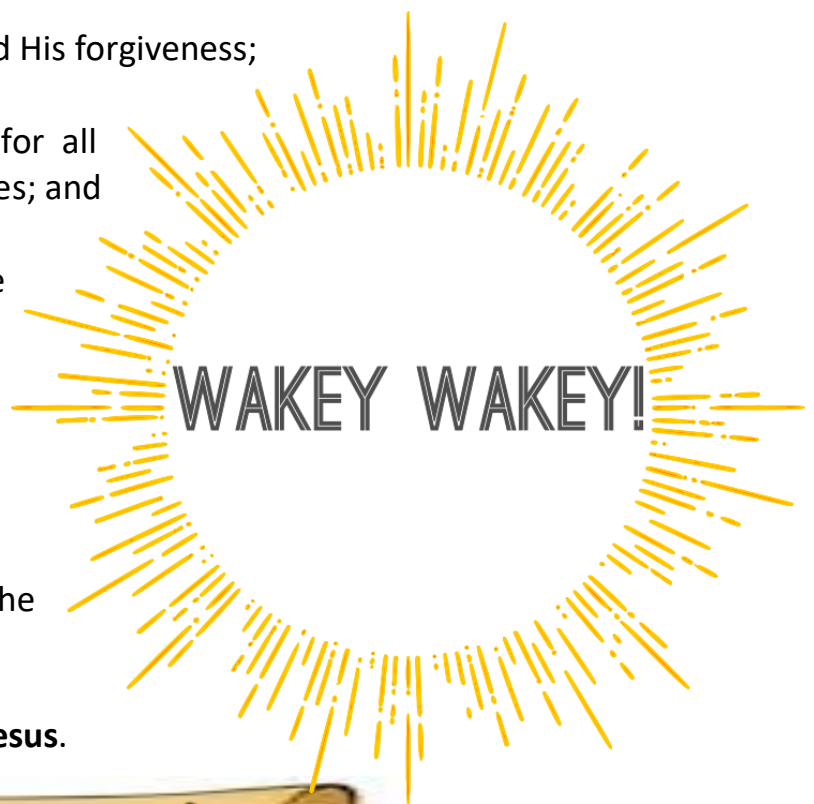
That's to say, He wants us all

- to realise that we need His forgiveness;
- to say sorry to Him for all that's wrong in our lives; and
- to trust in Jesus as the One who can put us right with God

So He has to **wake us up!**

He wants us all to do what the Magi did.

He wants us all to **come to Jesus.**



So take a look again at
Matt.2.1-2

After Jesus was born in Bethlehem in Judea, during the time of King Herod, Magi from the east came to Jerusalem² and asked, “Where is the one who has been born king of the Jews? We saw his star when it rose and have come

How did God make the Magi ‘wake up’ to the fact that Jesus is King?

How did He put it in their hearts to ‘come to Jesus’?



Here's the story of **Augustine of Hippo** and how God 'woke him' up!

Augustine lived a long time ago!

He was born in 354 AD (that's over 1,650 years ago now) in north Africa.

His mother was a lovely Christian lady who prayed a lot for her son as he was growing up. See if you can work out her name by fitting the letters **A I** and **O** into the gaps below

M _ N _ C _

As a young man Augustine was only interested in parties!



He went to Italy and had a good job there:
and he also made sure that he had a good
time there!



But he wasn't very happy!
and lots of friends and lots of
him happy at all.



Having lots of fun,
money didn't make

He knew there was something missing in his life.



One afternoon when he was out in the garden he heard a child in the next door garden singing a children's song.

The song had two words as its 'chorus':

'Take, read'

Augustine took them as God's instruction to him!

So he went inside, **took** the Bible which was there, and **read** from where it lay open.

That changed his life! What he read made him realise he needed to say sorry to God and to trust in Jesus. And that's exactly what he did!

God has lots of different ways of waking people up!



That was how He woke up Augustine.

It was certainly a wonderful answer to his mother's prayers!

Augustine went on to be a great servant of Jesus through the rest of his life.

And in the years since then lots and lots of people have been helped by reading what he taught and wrote.

Today's Bible passage helps you see how God 'woke up' the Magi, and what it was which made them come to Jesus.

The Magi



God wants *you* to come to Jesus too.

Maybe He's using the story of the Magi to wake you up!

You can use the prayer on the next page as a simple way for you to come to Jesus.

You!



A prayer

Think about what you've been learning today.
Now try praying this prayer (or making up your own prayer!)

Thank You, Jesus, for the story of the 'wise men'.

It's an exciting story: and I can see that it has important lessons for me today!

It helps me see how important it is that I, too, come to you ~ just like the 'wise men' did.

I can't travel to Bethlehem like they did, but I *CAN* get down on my knees, like they did, and worship You!

I'm sorry for all that's been wrong in my life. I know I need to be forgiven.

Thank You, Jesus, for the promise You've made that everyone who trusts in You will be forgiven.

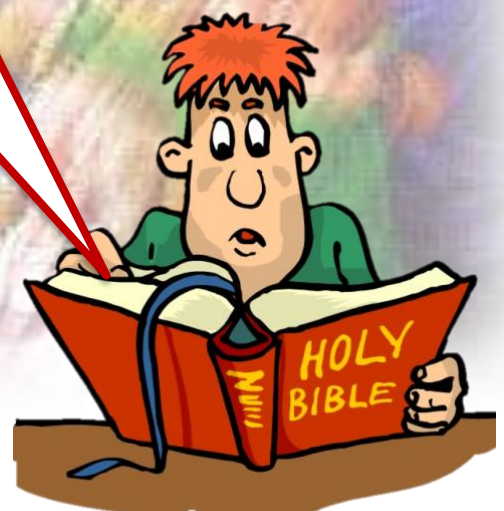
I want You to be King in my life: so, I'm coming to You now to



Today's verse for you to try and remember!

**"We saw His star in the east and
have come to worship Him"**

Matthew 2.2

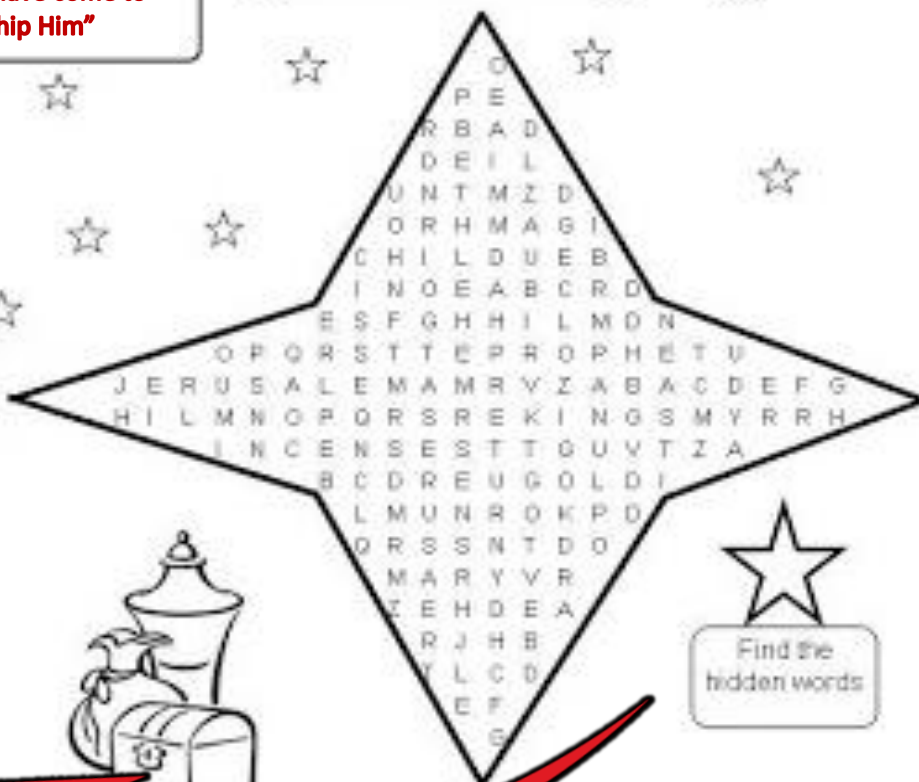


A 'WORDSEARCH'

with a slight difference...

"We saw His star in the east and have come to worship Him"

- Bethlehem
- Herod
- Magi
- Jerusalem
- King
- East
- Star
- Prophet
- Child
- Mary
- Treasures
- Gold
- Incense
- Myth
- Dream
- Return



Find the hidden words

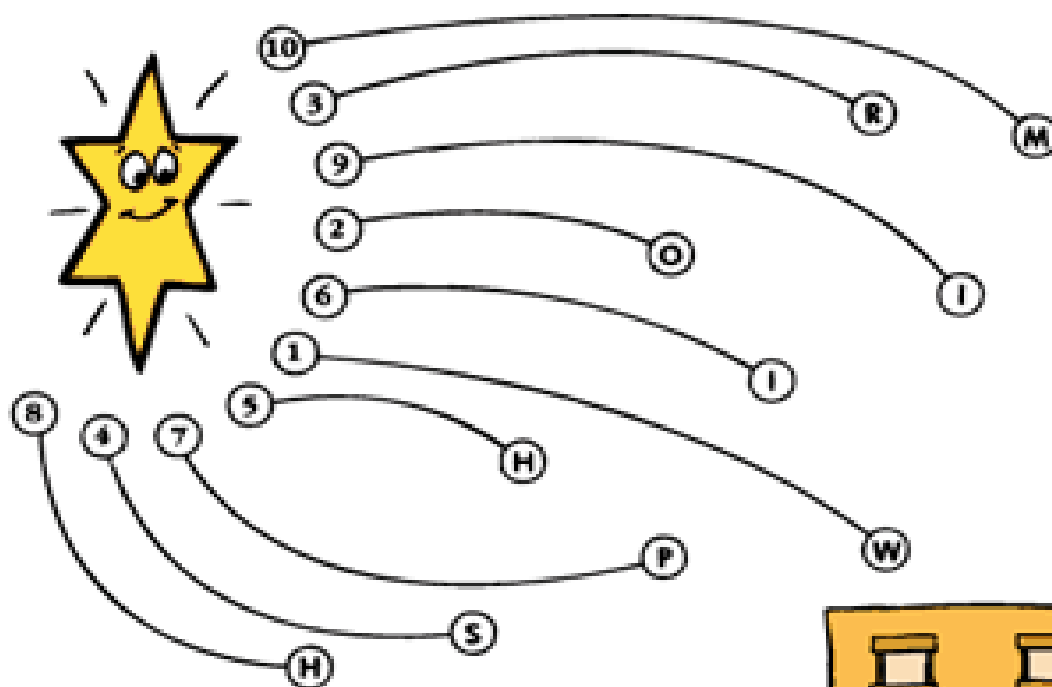


Follow the star.....

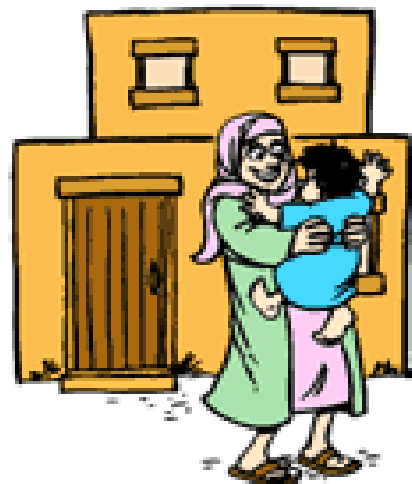


Follow the Star

Follow each numbered ray of light from the star to find the letters you need to put in each numbered box. Then you will know what the wise men planned to do when they found Jesus.



| | | | | | | | | | |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|----|
| 1 | 2 | 3 | 4 | 5 | 6 | 7 | 8 | 9 | 10 |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|----|



SPOT the DIFFERENCE

Circle all the differences between the two pictures below: then colour in the pictures



For you to COLOUR IN

