

The "GIFT of JESUS" CROWNS

Children's Message for Epiphany Day/Sunday

Print out enough copies of the second page of this document (the cut-out crown) to distribute to each child in church this Epiphany.

I bet someone here got something really special for Christmas. Maybe you gave someone something that you thought was really special. Tell me about it.

(Let them share; repeat answers or use a microphone.)

You know, there's something funny about Christmas. We give each other presents, but whose birthday are we celebrating on Christmas?

Well, today is another day celebrating Jesus' birthday, like Christmas, but we call it Epiphany. It's the day when some very unusual visitors called Magi brought Jesus presents for his birthday. Sometimes we call these people the Three Kings. They didn't live down the street from Jesus or even live in the same country. They traveled a long way, probably riding on camels, swaying back and forth on their camels' backs as they rode through deserts and mountains for weeks and weeks.

We're like those Magi, in a way. We live far away from where Jesus was born. How long do you think it would take to get to the country where Jesus lived?

(Let them share; repeat answers or use a microphone.)

The Magi were the first people like us to come to Jesus from far away and accept him as their Lord and King. Jesus is the King and Savior of every person in every country, isn't he? He loves all the people in the world. That's what we are celebrating on Epiphany.

Well, these visitors from a far country wanted to worship Jesus and give him gifts. Does anyone remember what gifts the Magi brought?

(Let them share; repeat answers or use a microphone.)

Now I'll tell you something very important. You can give Jesus a gift that's even more special than the gifts that the Magi gave Jesus.

You can give Jesus yourself! You can be Jesus' friend and honor and respect him and talk to him in your prayers. I'll bet you already talk to Jesus when you pray. The best gift we can give Jesus is to be his friend, too, and treat him always as our Lord.

I have something to remind you that you—like the Magi—have a very special gift to give to our Lord—the gift of yourself! I want to give you one of these crowns. When you wear it, remember that Jesus is our King! He is God's great gift to you and me, and you have a wonderful gift to give him every day!

Tab A

Slot A

I will be a gift for Jesus!

Jesus is God's gift to me!

Instructions

1. Color the "Gift for Jesus" crown.
2. Cut along the dark black lines.

3. Complete the crown by inserting Tab A into Slot A and Tab B into Slot B.
4. Reinforce with clear tape.

5. Wear your crown in celebration of God's greatest gift, the gift of Jesus.
6. Be a gift for Jesus each day.

Slot B

Tab B