

Follow the Star
by Mary Evelyn McCurdy

Cast:	Props:
Wise Men (variable number, 4 have lines)	scroll
Star	boxes/bags for wise men's gifts
Fish Seller	bread for baker
Baker	fish for fish seller
Shoppers (variable number, 2 have lines)	
King Herod	Costumes:
Chief Priests (variable number, 3 have lines)	Simple Bible costumes. King Herod
Teachers (variable number, 2 have lines)	should have a crown. For the star, you can cut out
Camels (variable number, no lines)	a star shape from yellow foam core board. Cut a
Mary	circle out of the middle and the child can hold it
Joseph	up in front of his or her face. Camel costumes can
Jesus (no lines, may use a large doll or may be played by young child)	be ordered online or made using brown sweat
Angel	suits or by cutting camel shapes out of foam core
	board.

(Wise Men are gathered together looking up. Wise Man 4 is holding a scroll. Star is standing off to the side.)

Wise Man 1: I think those stars over there look like the shape of a big bear.

Wise Man 2: Yes, and those over there look like the little dipper we use to get water.

Wise Man 3: Look at that star over there. I don't remember noticing it before.

Wise Man 4: It's a new star! Look on the scroll, we don't have a record of it at all!

Wise Man 1: What could it mean?

Wise Man 2: It must mean something very special. New stars don't appear every day.

Wise Man 3: Perhaps it means a king has been born.

Wise Man 4: Let's follow it and see!

Wise Man 1: If we're going to see a king, we should take him gifts. And only gifts fit for a king will do.

(Wise Men gather their boxes/bags.)

Star: Follow me!

(Star leads Wise Men and camels to the back of the auditorium. All sing.)

We the kings of Orient are
Bearing gifts we traverse afar.
Field and fountain, moor and mountain,
Following yonder star.

O, star of wonder, star of light,
Star with royal beauty bright,
Westward leading, still proceeding,
Guide us to thy perfect Light.

(Fish Seller, Baker, and Shoppers enter.)

Fish Seller: Fish for sale! Fish for sale!

Shopper 1: I'd like three fish, please.

Baker: Fresh bread! Hot from the oven!

Shopper 2: I'll take two loaves, please.

(Star leads Wise Men and camels to the stage. Star stands off to the side.)

Wise Man 1: Where is He who has been born king of the Jews? We saw His star in the east and have come to worship Him.

Shopper 2: King of the Jews? What are you talking about?

Wise Man 2: We saw His star in the east. Do you know where He is?

Shopper 1: Our king is Herod and he is in his palace.

Wise Man 3: Let's go ask Herod! Perhaps he will know.

(Fish Seller, Baker, and Shoppers exit one way, Wise Men and camels exit the other way. King Herod enters. Wise Men soon enter and bow to him.)

King Herod: I can see that you have traveled a very long way. What can I do for you?

Wise Man 1: Where is the one who has been born king of the Jews? We saw His star in the east and have come to worship Him.

King Herod: King of the Jews? I am the king of the Jews! Let me talk to the chief priests and teachers of the law.

(Wise Men stand off to the side. Chief Priests and Teachers enter.)

Chief Priests and Teachers: Yes, your majesty?

King Herod: Some men have come from the east and are asking, “Where is the one who has been born king of the Jews?” Do you know where this king was to be born?

Chief Priest 2: We read that passage just yesterday!

Chief Priest 1: In Bethlehem in Judea.

Teacher 1: For this is what the prophet has written: “But you Bethlehem in the land of Judah are by no means least among the rulers of Judah.”

Chief Priest 1: “For out of you will come a ruler who will be the shepherd of my people Israel.”

Chief Priest 3: Is that all you needed to know, your majesty?

King Herod: Yes. You may go.

Teacher 2: Ask a question any time. We always know the answers.

(Chief Priests and Teachers exit. King Herod calls secretly to the Wise Men and motions them to come closer.)

King Herod: Pssst. Pssst!

(Wise Men go to King Herod.)

King Herod: The prophets of long ago wrote that He was to be born in Bethlehem. Go and make a careful search for the child. As soon as you find Him, report to me, so that I too may go and worship Him.

Wise Men: Yes, your majesty.

Star: Follow me!

(Star leads the Wise Men and camels to the back of the auditorium.)

King Herod *(laughs wickedly)*: We'll see how long this baby is king of the Jews. As soon as the Wise Men come back and tell me where He is, I'll kill that baby.

(King Herod exits. Mary, Joseph, and Jesus enter. Star leads Wise Men to the stage as all sing.)

O, star of wonder, star of light,
Star with royal beauty bright,
Westward leading, still proceeding,
Guide us to thy perfect Light.

(Star is ahead of the Wise Men and stands beside Mary, Joseph, and Jesus.)

Wise Man 1: Look! The star has stopped over that house!

Wise Man 2: Hurray!

Wise Man 3: Let's go see who's inside!

(Wise Men go up on stage.)

Wise Man 1: May we come in?

Mary: Of course! Come in!

(Wise Men enter and bow down to Jesus.)

Wise Man 2: We have traveled from far away. We followed a special star and it led us right here.

Wise Man 1: We have brought your baby gifts. They are gifts fit for a king.

(Wise Men give their gifts.)

Wise Man 2: Gold.

Wise Man 3: Frankincense.

Wise Man 4: Myrrh.

Mary: Thank you!

Wise Man 1: King Herod told us to go back to Jerusalem and tell him where your baby is so that he could come and worship Him like we have. But he doesn't really want to worship your baby. God told me in a dream that we should not go back to Herod. We are going to go home a different way.

Wise Man 2: Good bye!

Joseph: Good bye.

Mary: Thank you for coming to visit our son. And thank you again for the wonderful gifts.

Wise Man 1: It was definitely worth the journey to see such a special little boy. Good bye.

Mary: Good bye.

(Wise Men and Star exit. Joseph, Mary, and Jesus go to sleep. Angel appears.)

Angel: Get up! Take the child and his mother and escape to Egypt. Stay there until I tell you, for Herod is going to search for the child to kill Him.

(Angel exits. Joseph gets up and wakes up Mary.)

Joseph: Mary! An angel just came to me and told me we must escape to Egypt. Herod wants to kill Jesus!

Mary: Oh, Joseph! Let's hurry!

(Joseph, Mary, and Jesus gather the gifts from the Wise Men and exit. Wise Men enter.)

Wise Man 2: I sure hope Herod doesn't kill Jesus.

Wise Man 1: He won't. God will protect him. God used a star to lead us all the way from the east to see Him. God will protect Him from Herod. I think God must have a very special plan for that little boy.

(All sing.)

O, star of wonder, star of light,
Star with royal beauty bright,
Westward leading, still proceeding,
Guide us to thy perfect Light.

Source: HomeschoolDramaticSociety.com

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