

Station Seven – A refugee king

Introduction



'When the visitors from the East had gone, an angel of the Lord appeared to Joseph in a dream. "Get up," he said, "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." So he got up, took the child and his mother during the night and left for Egypt, where he stayed until the death of Herod. And so was fulfilled what the Lord had said through the prophet: "Out of Egypt I called my son."

Matthew 2:13-15

Having a baby is a scary time for any new parent, but running away from an angry king makes it even more so! When our Christmas is full of fun and food, it is easy to forget that the first Christmas was not cosy and cute, it really was a matter of life and death!

Craft preparation

Make up bags of ingredients according to a recipe like this one.

https://www.bbc.co.uk/food/recipes/speculaasbiscuitstra_90641

Print instructions for mixing and baking

- Bags of ingredients
- Mixing and baking instructions

Craft Instructions

Imagine having to pack all your belongings in a bag and hurry off to another country. What things would you insist on taking?

Take the bag of Christmas biscuit ingredients home and bake them according to the instructions.

Perhaps you could take them to eat on a journey or give them to someone who might be feeling sad, lonely or worried

Scene setting

Required

- Introduction sheet
- Craft instructions
- Story – printed/videoed or read in person

Optional

- Bags open and being packed hurriedly with stuff for a baby
- Reflection questions

Reflection questions

- Why do you think Herod was so frightened of Jesus that he threatened to kill him?
- Imagine the conversation the star followers had when they woke up after their dream from God warning them not to tell Herod where to find Jesus
- Mary and Joseph must have been very frightened, after all this was the Son of God, they were responsible for keeping safe! Jesus promises us peace from God beyond all understanding. Do you think this was true when he was just a baby?

Soundtrack	It is well with my soul: https://youtu.be/FexGqNDBK3g
Story	Herod on the rampage
Extra ideas	Share information about charities that help refugees: like Refugee Roots and Christian Aid . Perhaps have a donations box too Read 'Father and Son' by Geraldine McCaughrean