

Esther and Emmett: 'Epiphany'

Emmett: Hi Esther, and Happy New Year!

Esther: Happy New Year, Emmett! And almost Happy Epiphany!

Emmett: Almost what?

Esther: January 6th is Epiphany!

Emmett: I thought it was Thursday!

Esther: It is Thursday, but Epiphany is a name the church has for January 6th – just like the church has a day called Christmas and a day called Easter, the church has a day called Epiphany.

Emmett: It seems like a funny name – like an epi-funny!

Esther: Epiphany is a word that means a sudden realization, understanding...a sudden 'Aha!' moment!

Emmett: Aha...I think I see!

Esther: And that's an epiphany!

Emmett: And the church says January 6th is an Epiphany?

Esther: On January 6th the church remembers the story of the three magi.

Emmett: The magi...they were the wise guys, right?

Esther: Sometimes they are called wisemen, but I prefer to call them Magi. They were probably people who studied the stars and planets to try to understand life.

Emmett: So, did they have an epiphany?

Esther: Yes. Their epiphany happened when they saw a very bright star.

Emmett: They saw a star?

Esther: They not only saw the star...they followed it.

Emmett: The magi followed a star! Aha! I think I know where the star led them.

Esther: It led them to a child.

Emmett: Aha! I know who that child was!

Esther: It was Jesus!

Emmett: Aha! I see! I also see that they brought some gifts to Jesus.

Esther: Yes. They brought gold, and myrrh and frankincense – the types of gifts that you might give to a king.

Emmett: Aha! So they thought Jesus was a king!

Esther: Are you going to keep saying 'Aha'?

Emmett: Well, it's easier to say than 'Epiphany'!

Esther: O Emmett! Yes, they thought that Jesus was a king...that Jesus was going to be someone important.

Emmett: And he was!

Esther: You forgot to say 'Aha'!

Emmett: 'Aha'!

Esther: Yes, Jesus was important, but not the way kings are usually important.

Emmett: 'Aha'! I see....no I don't!

Esther: Well, Jesus wasn't a king who sat on a throne or who had a palace. Jesus was important because he showed God's love by being with all sorts of people.

Emmett: Aha! I see...Jesus was with people who couldn't walk, and couldn't see, and whom other people didn't want to be with...

Esther: Yes. Jesus was with people who never got invited to dinner with the kings who sat on thrones and lived in palaces.

Emmett: That's because Jesus knew that God loves everyone and Jesus wanted people to know that God loved them.

Esther: Aha!

Emmett: Hey, that's my line!

Esther: Jesus shared food with people because God wants everyone to have enough food; and he healed people, and he told stories about God.

Emmett: Do you think that when the magi saw the star they knew Jesus would do all these things?

Esther: I think they just knew that there was a star that was acting in strange way.

Emmett: In a funny way...an Epip-funny-way! Aha!

Esther: And so they followed the star because they figured that God had something for them to see.

Emmett: And when they saw Jesus, they probably said, "I see".

Esther: Aha!

Emmett: Hey, Esther, I just realized something about the word 'Aha'!

Esther: What did you just realize?

Emmett: It begins with the sound 'Ah'!

Esther: Yes it does.

Emmett: And there's another word that begins with 'Ah'!

Esther: What word?

Emmett: ...Amen!

Esther: Aha!...Amen!