

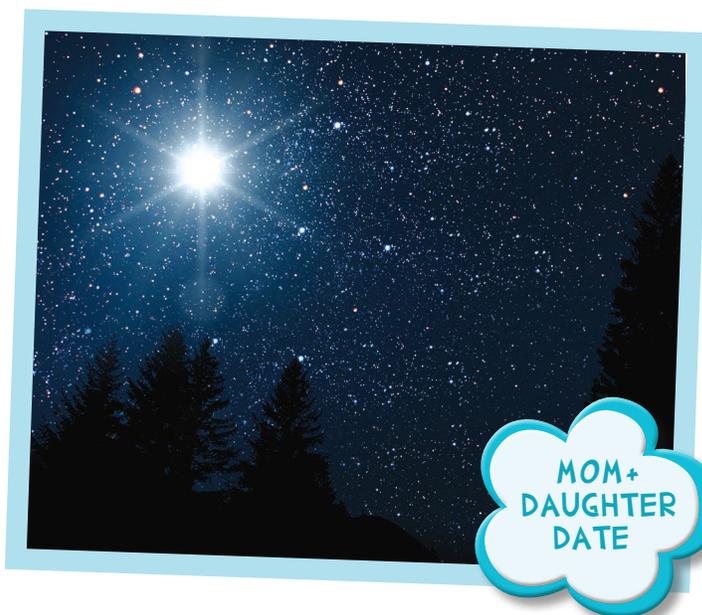


DECEMBER DATE



Exploring the Christmas Star

2020 is going out with another once-in-a-lifetime event, but you'll enjoy this one. Jupiter and Saturn will align to create the first "Christmas Star" in 800 years.



MOM+
DAUGHTER
DATE

Matthew records that the birth of Jesus was accompanied by an extraordinary celestial event: a star that led the magi or "wise men" to Jesus. What was this star? And how did it lead the magi to the Lord? There are a number of theories as to what it might have been. (Learn more about them from this [Answers in Genesis article](#).) One of them is "the conjunction theory."

The Conjunction Theory

An astronomical conjunction is when two planets—or a planet and a star—pass by one another so closely that they look like one bright orb in the night sky. One German astronomer proposes that the Christmas Star that would have led the wise men to baby Jesus was an exceptionally rare conjunction of three planets—Jupiter, Saturn, and Venus. This would have created magnificent tails or the radiant point of light that we associate with the Christmas Star. (Like the ones in the cookie we decorated during [The Great Christmas Cookie Decorating Party](#).)



On Dec. 21 of this year, Jupiter and Saturn will align so closely in the night sky that they'll almost appear to collide from our vantage point here on Earth, re-creating the Christmas star. This is a wonderful teachable moment and a lifetime event that most humans will never witness. (The last time it happened was March 4, 1226!) Why not invest in a memory with your daughter that she'll tell her grandchildren about.



Let's **STARt** planning! (See what I did there?)



IN HIS GREAT LOVE,
DANNAH GRESH
Founder of True Girl



Experience simple mom+daughter dates every month!

It's easy to get so busy as a mom, that strategic connection experiences don't just happen. Why not give her the gift of a whole year of simple-to-plan dates like this one. Each month, your inbox will contain downloadables including a plan for a mom+daughter date, tween-friendly daily devos, Bible verse cards, meditation coloring pages, and a monthly coaching video from Dannah Gresh. And if you select the True Girl Ultimate Subscription, we'll add the bonus of a box of biblical resources to support the experiences which will be delivered to your girl every sixty days.



TrueGirl

Learn more at mytruegirl.com/subscription



PLANNING A CHRISTMAS CONVERSATION



SUBJECT:

Wise men—
and woman & girls—
still seek Him

SETTING:

A mountain, field,
beach or your backyard
will even do!

MATERIALS YOU'LL NEED:

A weather report so you can find a good location within driving distance where you'll have a good view of the night sky on December 19–23. The Bethlehem Star will be observable all week, but will be most brilliant on the 21st. Schedule your conversation for the right night and be willing to make last-minute changes should the weather not cooperate. It's imperative that you get a great star-viewing night for this date.

A telescope (optional).

Some star shaped Christmas cookies & hot chocolate (optional).

A lantern or two flashlights.



mytruegirl.com/subscription

There are **TWO GOALS** during the adventure:

- 1 THE FIRST** is for your daughter to enjoy the thrill of being up past her bedtime and to enjoy a really special time with you. Pop out your snack pack and enjoy each other under the stars.
- 2 THE SECOND GOAL** is to have a conversation with her about the Christmas star and what meaning it still has in our lives today. The following questions will help guide that conversation.

1. **Read Matthew 2:1-12 and talk about the Christmas star and the wise men who followed it.** These questions could be helpful prompts.

- ♥ What did the star do? (It invited them to find Jesus, or it led them to Jesus.)
- ♥ What did the wise men do when they saw it? (They followed it.)
- ♥ What did they do when they found him? (They worshipped him and gave him very valuable gifts.)

2. **Consider how using the symbol of the star to decorate during Christmas can remind us about the experience of the wise men and what we can learn from them.**

- ♥ Where do we often see the Christmas Star during the holidays? (Cookies, Gift Cards, Tree Toppers, etc.)
- ♥ What does it mean to us today? (*Wise men—and women and girls— still seek Him.* When we see the star, we can be reminded to follow it and find Jesus. When we share the star, we can invite others to follow it and find Jesus.)

3. **Discuss these questions to discover some actionable steps to take this Christmas.**

- ♥ During the Christmas season, what obstacles sometimes get in the way of us seeking Jesus like the wise men? (Gifts, commercialism, busyness, etc.)
- ♥ How can we follow the star and find Jesus as we approach Christmas in a few days? (Read the Christmas story on Christmas Eve, pray together in gratitude for the gift of Jesus, read daily advent devos, making a birthday cake to sing "Happy Birthday" to Jesus, etc.) few days? (Read the Christmas story on Christmas Eve, pray together in gratitude for the gift of Jesus, read daily advent devos, making a birthday cake to sing "Happy Birthday" to Jesus, etc.)



★ **Christmas Star Cookies** Make your mom+daughter date extra special by baking and decorating Christmas star cookies to munch on. (Some hot chocolate will accompany them nicely and keep you both toasty warm.) The recipe for these cookies (and the royal icing that makes them so fantastic) can be found as a free downloadable on [The Great Christmas Cookie Decorating Party registration page](#). Anne Yorks of The Flour Box tutored us

through decorating our cookies and taught us how to get a Pinterest-perfect result. If you missed the party, we'll be happy to send you a link to the recorded version of that event for a gift of any amount to the ministry of True Girl. We're so grateful for the support we get from friends like you as we seek to keep girls growing closer to their moms and closer to Jesus.

For a gift of \$50 or more, we'll ship
★ **The Flour Box Christmas cookie kit.**

It contains everything you need to "cookie with confidence" as you follow the instructions in the Great Christmas Cookie Decorating Party video. It's just our way of saying thanks for supporting the mission of True Girl!

