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The Visit of the Wise Men

Matthew 2:1-12
December 25, 2016

I. The Wise Men Came from the _____ (vv. 1-2)

II. The Wise Men _____ King Herod's Evil Plot (vv. 3-8, 12)

III. The Wise Men Came to _____ Jesus (vv. 9-12)

TAKE HOME

- Where have you come from in your _____ to the Christ of Christmas?
- What paths do you need to _____ in your life as a result of seeing Christ?
- Will you offer Jesus the _____ of your heart as you find your joy in Him?

APPLICATION QUESTIONS

James 1:22 says, *“But be doers of the word, and not hearers only, deceiving yourselves.”* These questions are designed to help you apply today’s message to your life. We encourage you to thoughtfully answer these questions and discuss your answers with others. For more information about joining a Small Group that uses these questions as the basis for discussion, prayer, and accountability, please call the church office at (661) 259-2913.

1. How many of the questions did you get right on the Christmas Quiz? Discuss the importance of reading the Scripture and forming our thoughts and ideas of Christmas from the Bible and not from other sources.

2. Read Matthew 2:1-2. What do you think of when you think of the “East”? What is meant by “East” in the Bible? What does the word Magi mean?

3. Read Isa. 9:6-7. How does this passage teach us about the “King of the Jews” that the wise men came to worship?

4. Read Matthew 2:3-8 and v. 12. Why did Herod want to learn about the baby born in Bethlehem? Why did the wise men return home a different way? What can we learn from this to apply in our own lives? (1 Pet. 5:8-9)

5. Read Matthew 2:9-11. Now read Numbers 24:17. What do you think the star was? What did you learn from the treasures brought by the wise men?

6. Read Matthew 6:19-21. What are the treasures in your heart? How can you offer these to Christ this Christmas?

7. Read the take home questions. Which one challenges you or encourages you the most? What changes would you like to make in your life this holiday season?

*For to us a child is born,
to us a son is given;
and the government shall be upon his shoulder,
and his name shall be called Wonderful Counselor,
Mighty God, Everlasting Father, Prince of Peace.
Of the increase of his government and of peace there will be no end,
on the throne of David and over his kingdom,
to establish it and to uphold it with justice
and with righteousness from this time forth and forevermore.
The zeal of the LORD of hosts will do this.*

- Isaiah, 700 years before Jesus was born