

CHRISTMAS WISDOM: THE STORY OF THE WISEMEN

Use the following notes in your Growth Group or for further personal study of today's message. We hope these will enrich and deepen your walk as you study God's Word.

GETTING STARTED:

1. What was said in the sermon that got your attention, raised a question or had an impact on your life?
2. What is your favorite tradition related to Christmas?

DIGGING DEEPER

3. In your journey toward God, how are you like the wise men? Unlike them? Have you had to leave anything to follow Jesus?
4. What is the "gold, incense and myrrh" in your life? Have you offered this to Jesus?
5. Note the responses of the wise men upon seeing Jesus. How is that similar to the response that Christians make to Jesus? How is it different?
6. In your journey of change, what changes have you noticed since you accepted Jesus Christ as your Lord and Savior?
7. What's holding you back? What steps do you need to take for Jesus to bring about change in your life?

APPLICATION:

7. Is there a lesson, truth, attitude or response you learned from the wise men that you need to put into practice this week?

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1/4 in the series: *Stories of Christmas*
November 30, 2014 • Pastor Jon Gott • *Matthew 2:1-12*

The story of the wise men is a story that is shrouded in mystery. From tradition we seem to know all the facts and details. But as we study the scripture, we find that there are a lot of questions we can not answer about the wise men from the biblical text. For example: How many were there? We don't know. Where did they come from? We don't know. How long did their journey take? We don't know. They seem to just show up mysteriously—and just as mysteriously they are gone. But their story lives on as we celebrate and remember every Christmas.

Three aspects of a wise man:

1. Journey of Faith
2. Journey of Worship
3. Journey of Change

Application

How can you be changed by Christ this Christmas?

NEXT WEEK: 2/4 • I John 4:9-11-Advent: The Story of God's Gift
Pastor Robb Williams