

MAGI-Gifts For The King Matthew 2:1-12 *Living With Jesus* 1-8-17

Who's the "us" in "God with us"?

Jesus' family tree has 4 foreign-born women & now Magi!

Ps.87:3-4 "Us" is all nations! **Mt. 28:19** & "I'm w/ you".

1. UNIQUE GIFTS FOR THE KING

*** Respond to God's Presence**

- ~ God guides a Star & identifies w/ Scripture the King to be born.
- ~ Magi's eager response of wonder highlights Herod's fearful resistance.

How do we respond to God's presence in our lives today?

*** King of the World**

- ~ What gifts are appropriate for such a king?
 - Humble worship! **Is. 60:3**
 - Bring your best resources to serve the King!
- ~ How this King will rule differently?
 - He's born to die for us, so all creation owes allegiance & honor.

2. GUIDED THROUGH CONFLICT

Bkgd of Rev. 12 DeVinci's Adoration of Magi

*** Decision:** How will you respond to God's presence in Jesus?

- ~ Word Encourages us: Magi come w/ worship in their hearts.
- ~ Word Warns us: Herod hates what God's doing. **H.C. #5**

*** Division:** Which side are you?

- ~ War of resisting ...examine your heart. **H.C. #8**
- ~ Another Way Home ... Narrow way! **H.C. #8**

See page 2 for more story & reflections on the Lord Our God

MAGI - Gifts For the King

Read & reflect together on the Word as a family throughout the week.

Isaiah 60:1-3 The Glory of The Lord

1. Christmas day we celebrated Jesus as the Light of the World in John 1:1-18.
How does Jesus' birth & ministry shine light in your everyday life?
2. Isaiah 60:3 speaks to the Magi coming to Jesus with gifts & worship. What nation or world leaders have come to recognize King Jesus since then?
3. How intense will this Light become? (v.19-20) How/when will this occur?

Matthew 2:13-18 Protected in Egypt

1. Why is Herod angry & so afraid of baby Jesus the King?
2. Why does Matthew emphasize God's watchful care of Jesus?
3. Why does Matthew connect Israel's rescue from Egypt with Jesus?

Matthew 2:19-23 Returning to Nazareth

1. Matthew seems to dismiss Herod with little notice beyond "he died".
What might we learn about power & those who resist God?
2. How does Joseph decide where he will finally live?
3. What is the significance of Jesus living in Nazareth? In Galilee?
How is Galilee similar to Magi from the east in Jesus ministry?
What does this tell us about who Jesus invites into his family?

Matthew 3:1-12 John Prepares the Way

1. How would you paraphrase John's message in vs.2 for today?
2. What upset John about the Pharisees & Sadducees coming to him?
What does the "fruit of repentance" look like for you?
3. What is so different about Jesus' ministry from John's?
We have a sense of what baptized with the Holy Spirit means.
What effect does being baptized with fire have on us?