

## Honored Gifts from Humbled Kings

Matthew 2:1-12

### Taking it Home:

1. Consider one of the following as you gaze on the face of Christ during this advent season.

Download one of these daily advent guides:

Dallas Seminary - [lps.dts.edu/christmas-devotional-ebook-2023](https://lps.dts.edu/christmas-devotional-ebook-2023)

CRU - [cru.org/advent](https://cru.org/advent)

Watch one of the following movies:

The Journey to Bethlehem (In theaters now)

Christmas with the Chosen: Holy Night (In theaters: Dec. 12)

The Nativity (Streaming)

2. Pray for opportunities to share about Jesus this Christmas season.

### Prayer Concerns:

### The context of Matthew

1. Matthew was written for \_\_\_\_\_ audience.
2. Jesus is \_\_\_\_\_, \_\_\_\_\_, and \_\_\_\_\_.
3. Matthew is a \_\_\_\_\_ account.

### The Magi and the religious leaders

1. The Magi \_\_\_\_\_ God, the religious leaders do not.
2. The Magi \_\_\_\_\_ Jesus, the religious leaders do not.
3. The Magi act on \_\_\_\_\_, the religious leaders do not.
4. The Magi \_\_\_\_\_ Jesus in \_\_\_\_\_, the religious leaders do not.

### Christmas Reflections from the Magi:

1. God is willing to \_\_\_\_\_ with anyone who has a heart to listen.
2. Everyone has a place in \_\_\_\_\_.
3. The reality of Jesus necessitates a \_\_\_\_\_?

### How will you respond?

## Personal Study/Growth Group Discussion Questions

### Getting Started:

1. What is the furthest you've ever traveled to visit someone?

### Digging Deeper:

#### Read Matthew 2:1-12

1. Given the context of Matthew, what is one new thing that stood out to you that you didn't notice or know before?
2. Reread Jerusalem's reaction to the Magi showing up [vs. 3-6]. Why do you think the religious leaders stay in Jerusalem instead of searching for the baby Jesus?
3. Astrology is something that is condemned in God's Law. Why might God have chosen to communicate with the Magi through the stars? What does this tell us about God's nature and character?
4. Can you trace your own journey to Jesus? How did God work in the twists and turns of your life to bring you to His Son?
5. Note the response to the Magi upon seeing Jesus. How is this similar or different from the response you have to Jesus?
6. After reading this story, do you feel like you fit into God's story? Why, or why not?
7. How have you chosen to respond to Jesus, knowing that He was a real historical figure who was born, lived, bled, died, and rose from the dead? Do you have trouble believing this?