



Matthew 2:1-15
The Journey of Faith
Sunday, 12/20/20 – Pastor Stuart Fraser

I. Introduction: The story of Christmas is about the faith of the magi, who followed the star until they came to the home where they found the Savior and worshipped Him.

II. The Journey of Faith (Matt 2:1-15).

A. The Sages' Wisdom (vv. 1-6).

1. The magi displayed unusual faith and wisdom traveling from the far East to look for a King that they had only heard about from Jewish exiles.

B. The Star's Leading (vv. 7-10).

1. As they followed the star from the East, the magi were led by God to the place where they could find Jesus and could worship Him as the King of the Jews.

C. The Savior's Worth (vv. 11-15).

1. The magi presented to Jesus gifts appropriate for a King. They knew He was special and that His birth signaled that God was doing something extraordinary.

III. Conclusion: The wise men demonstrate that the journey of faith to find Jesus may be long and dangerous, but when you see Him, you will worship Him.

Questions About: The Journey of Faith

1. Do you live by faith or by fear? When was the last time you did something that required faith? When have you done something, not knowing how it would turn out?
2. What are some ways that we can see that these pagan magi demonstrated more wisdom than the Jews? (**Matt 2:1-6**) How did they display wisdom in seeking Jesus? (**Matt 2:2, 9, 11**)
3. How did the wise men ask the right questions? (**Matt 2:2**) How did they rightly understand Jesus' identity? (**v. 2**) How were the magi like Abraham? (**Gen 12:1-3; Heb 11:8-10**)
4. Why is it surprising that the magi did not worship the star? (**Matt 2:7-10**) How do people today worship the stars? (**Rom 1:25**) Why did these pagan rulers care about a Jewish King?
5. Why did God have the star lead them to Jerusalem? (**Matt 2:2-9**) What did they do when the star returned? (**v. 10**) How was the star pointing to something even greater? (**Rev 22:16**)
6. What did the magi see when they came to Bethlehem? (**Matt 2:11-12**) How did they see with eyes of faith? (**v. 11; Matt 13:44-46**) Why do others not perceive the value of Jesus?
7. In what two ways did they worship Jesus? (**Matt 2:11**) What does prostrating oneself indicate about the worshipper? What gifts did they give to Jesus? What did they signify?
8. What is of greater value to Jesus than your money? (**Matt 22:36-37**) Are you wise like the magi living by faith? Are you foolish, like Herod, who lived in fear?

Prayer

1. Ask God to give you the confidence you need to live this life by faith in Jesus.
2. Ask God to help you worship Jesus this Christmas with your whole heart.