Life Group Discussion Questions:

Christmas Stories: The Visit Matthew 2:1-12

- 1. What gift do you wish you could give to a special person in your life?
- 2. **Read Matthew 2:1-2.** Who came to visit the young Jesus? What factors prompted the Magi to search for him?
- 3. **Read Matthew 2:3-6 and Micah 5:2-4.** How did King Herod and "all of Jerusalem with him" react to the visit of the Magi? Why was a powerful king disturbed by the presence of a helpless baby?
- 4. In response to King Herod's question of where Christ was to be born, the religious leaders referenced Micah 5. Why is it significant that Christ was born in Bethlehem? Discuss the prediction of a ruler who would shepherd the people of Israel.
- 5. Read Matthew 2:7-8. What were King Herod's instructions to the Magi?
- **6. Read Matthew 2:9-12.** How were the Magi led to Christ? Why do you think no one else followed the star? How did God lead you to Christ?
- **7.** What was the Magi's reaction when they realized they had found the Christ? Why didn't the Magi report back to Herod as he had requested?
- 8. What sort of activities does worship involve? What are some "presents" we might give Christ this Christmas?
- 9. What starlike, shining deed can you do today to point a non-Christian friend to Christ? What sacrifice do you need to make for Christ this week?
- 10. What tradition can you start, for you or your family, that will help you worship Jesus?