



Welcome!

SERIES: DON'T MISS CHRISTMAS
Today's Message: The Gifts We Give
Dr. Lance D. Watson, Senior Pastor

PRAYER: Christmas is all about you Lord. We move with anticipation to celebrate your gift of a baby born in a barn, wrapped in rags, welcomed by shepherds, and worshipped by wise men. This year, help us to make room for you. Give us a heart to worship. Move us to give our best to you, that your great story in history may continue. In the name of Jesus Christ, we pray. Amen.

ICEBREAKER: Reflecting on your childhood, what gift did you receive for Christmas that stands out in your memory? Why?

MESSAGE RECAP: The wise men specifically brought three gifts to Jesus. Whatever their intent, the gifts were likely used in His family's escape to and provision in Egypt. When we give, we have the privilege of entering into and being a part of God's great story.

SCRIPTURE: Read St. Matthew 2:9-11 (NLT)

DISCUSSION:

1. **What was your biggest takeaway from the message?** What's one thing you learned? What questions came to mind as you listened to the message today? What points did you find most insightful? How did the message challenge you?
2. What's your favorite "unexpected" detail in the Christmas story? What is your favorite part of the wise men's story?
3. Do the sacrifices the wise men made to see the baby Jesus surprise you? What do you think motivated the wise men to journey so far from home and to refuse to be diverted from their mission? What does their story tell you about their faith?
4. Matthew 2:1-11 talks about the wise men's journey to meet Jesus. How has your journey toward God been similar? Different? The Wise Men were led by a star to Jesus. What are various things in your life that lead you to Jesus?
5. Read Matthew 2:11 again. In what ways do you worship Jesus? What gifts do you give Him? How do you sacrifice for Him? The wise men went to great lengths to worship Jesus. But Jesus went to greater lengths to love them. How will you respond to God's love for you this Christmas?

CHALLENGE: What is one "a-ha" moment you had in our group discussion today. Note it and write it down. If you applied your learning from this week's message, how would the next week be different for you?

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SERVE: How is God calling us to live out this message this week? As individuals? As a group?

ANNOUNCEMENTS: Take this time to share group announcements. Church wide and campus specific announcements can be found at www.myspbc.org. You can also “find, follow and like” our Facebook page at www.facebook.com/myspbc. Turn on your notifications.

CELEBRATIONS: Take this time to share praise reports (e.g., answered prayers, birthdays, anniversaries, promotions).

PRAYER REQUESTS AND PRAYER: Take this time to share prayer requests. Close with prayer.

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We Care!

A large, solid red heart is positioned behind the text 'We Care!', with the heart's center overlapping the letter 'e'.

NOTICE: PLEASE BE PATIENT AS WE GRADUALLY REOPEN OUR CAMPUSES IN THE SAFEST MANNER POSSIBLE. As a small group leader, we depend on you to show members that we care. Here's a list of resources to help you.

FOR PRAYER:

CALL: 804.463.2472
EMAIL: prayer@myspbc.org.

TO REQUEST A HOSPITAL VISIT:

CALL: 804.304.3890 (For Emergencies)
EMAIL: ecare@myspbc.org.

TO FIND A SUPPORT GROUP:

CALL: 804.643.6177
EMAIL: Barnabas@myspbc.org.

TO CONTACT MY LIFE STAGE PASTOR:

CALL: 804.643.4000 and Press 1 for the Dial By Name Directory

EMAIL:

- Imagination (0-10): Vernita Williams: Vernita.Williams@myspbc.org
- SMB (11-19): Martina Jones-Smith: Martina.Jones-Smith@myspbc.org
- Dreamchasers (20-29): Juan Shackelford: juan.shackelford@myspbc.org
- Aspire (30-39): Lance Watson, Jr.: lance.watsonjr@myspbc.org
- Fusion (40-49): Michelle Townsend: michelle.townsend@myspbc.org
- Encore (50-59): Jamie Duncan: Jamie.Duncan@myspbc.org
- Prime Time (60-69): Maceo Freeman: maceo.freeman@myspbc.org
- Refiners (70+): Roscoe Jones: roscoe.jones@myspbc.org

FOR COUNSELING:

CALL: 804.643.6177
EMAIL: Barnabas@myspbc.org

TO REQUEST FUNERAL SUPPORT:

CALL: 804.304.3890 (Pastor On Call)
EMAIL: ecare@myspbc.org.

TO REQUEST EMERGENCY ASSISTANCE:

CALL: 804.643.4000
EMAIL: emergencyassistance@myspbc.org.

GPS is a study guide based on the weekend message. The purpose of this guide is to assist small groups in study. Previous GPS Guides are available online at www.myspbc.org.