

The Magi

Matthew 2:1-18

The Background of the Magi

- The magi were powerful Gentile _____.
- They served foreign _____ (probably _____)
- They served a foreign _____ (probably _____)
- Their job was to _____ and _____ the future.

The Journey of the Magi

- The Magi saw a star that indicated a new _____ in _____.
- The Magi decided to travel to Jerusalem to _____ the new _____.
- When they found him, they "paid homage"—they _____ to him as _____.

The Virtues of the Magi

- The Magi watched for signs of what _____ was _____ in the world (*Herod was _____*).
(Romans 1:20; Psalm 19:1-2)
- The Magi _____ when they discerned _____ (*Herod felt _____*).
(Isaiah 60:3; Psalm 72:10-11)
- The Magi submitted to God's _____ over them. (*Herod tried to stay in _____*)

The Road to Christmas

- To serve God we have to _____ for what he is doing.
- To serve God we have to be _____ on what God reveals to us.
- To serve God we have to acknowledge that God is _____ over our _____.

Discussion Questions

1. What did you find most interesting about the sermon this week? The most helpful, eye-opening, or troubling?
2. How are you celebrating Christmas this year?
3. How would you have reacted if you were Mary or Joseph when these foreign magicians showed up to see your baby?
4. How do we "pay homage" to God—how do we show that he is our king?
5. Reread Romans 1:20 and Psalm 19:1-2 (or the whole Psalm!) How do the Heavens teach us about the character and nature of God?
6. The Bible does not recommend astrology as a way to discern God's actions on Earth. How can we discern what God is doing?
7. Have you ever felt God calling you to do something you didn't want to do? How did you respond? What happened?
8. What is God doing around you right now that you should be a part of?
9. How will you act on what God is doing?
10. How will you acknowledge that God is your king this week?