



## The Burn — Week 3 Reading Plan

### Matthew 2:1–12 — The King Revealed: The Magi, Prophecy, and True Worship

Discipleship Pathway | Emmaus Walk | Kingdom Framework

#### Weekly Big Idea

Jesus is the promised King revealed to the nations, fulfilling prophecy at His first coming and ultimately ruling at His second coming.

#### Key Question

Will I respond to Jesus like the Magi (worship), the religious leaders (indifference), or Herod (resistance)?

#### Weekly Reading Plan (Week 3)

##### Monday — The Birthplace of the King (Micah's Prophecy)

##### Read:

- Matthew 2:1–6
- Micah 5:2–5

Matthew shows that Jesus' birth in Bethlehem was not accidental — it was prophetic fulfillment.

Micah prophesied that a ruler from Bethlehem would shepherd Israel and whose origins are "from ancient days" (Micah 5:2), pointing to both Messiah's divine nature and eternal reign.

Messianic scholars (including First Fruits of Zion) emphasize that Micah's prophecy speaks not only of Messiah's birth, but also of His future global peace and rule.

##### Emmaus Reflection Questions:

1. How does Micah 5:2 connect directly to Matthew 2:6?
2. What clues in Micah suggest both a first coming and a future Kingdom reign?



3. How does fulfilled prophecy strengthen your trust in Scripture?

## **Tuesday — The Nations Seek the King (The Magi)**

### **Read:**

- Matthew 2:1–2
- Numbers 24:17
- Isaiah 60:1–6

The Magi were likely eastern scholars or royal astrologers who recognized the significance of the star.

Many Messianic teachers, including First Fruits of Zion (FFOZ), suggest the Magi may have been influenced by Jewish exile communities in Babylon and familiar with Messianic prophecies like Balaam's star prophecy (Num. 24:17).

Isaiah 60 prophetically describes nations bringing gifts to the King — a powerful parallel to the Magi's journey.

### **Emmaus Reflection Questions:**

1. How do Numbers 24:17 and Matthew 2:2 connect prophetically?
2. What does it reveal that Gentiles traveled far to worship Israel's King?
3. Are you actively seeking Jesus with the same intentionality as the Magi?

## **Wednesday — The Indifference of Religious Leaders**

### **Read:**

- Matthew 2:3–6
- Psalm 2:1–6
- Isaiah 29:13

The chief priests and scribes knew the prophecy — but did not go to Bethlehem.

They had knowledge without pursuit.

Meanwhile, the Magi traveled hundreds of miles, while the religious leaders wouldn't travel six miles.



This reveals a sobering discipleship truth:  
You can know Scripture intellectually and still miss the King relationally.

### **Emmaus Reflection Questions:**

1. Why were the religious leaders unmoved even though they knew the prophecy?
2. How does Psalm 2 describe the response of rulers to God's King?
3. Where might familiarity with Scripture be dulling your pursuit of Jesus?

### **Thursday — Herod, Fear, and the Troubling Presence of the King**

#### **Read:**

- Matthew 2:3, 7–8
- Exodus 1:8–10
- Malachi 4:1–3

Matthew says Herod and “all Jerusalem” were troubled.

Why?

Because the arrival of the true King confronts false power, pride, and control.

Throughout Scripture, the **Day of the Lord** is described as glorious for the faithful and dreadful for those who oppose God (Malachi 4:1).

Jesus' coming brings joy to seekers and disturbance to those resisting His authority.

### **Emmaus Reflection Questions:**

1. Why does the presence of the true King trouble Herod and Jerusalem?
2. How does Malachi describe the dual nature of the Lord's coming?
3. Does Jesus' kingship comfort or challenge areas of your life?

### **Friday — Worship, Gifts, and True Devotion**

#### **Read:**

- Matthew 2:9–12
- Psalm 72:10–11
- Isaiah 60:6



The Magi's gifts were deeply significant:

- Gold — royalty
- Frankincense — divinity/priestly symbolism
- Myrrh — suffering and burial

They gave:

- Their best
- With purpose
- In worship

This fulfills Psalm 72 and Isaiah 60, where kings bring tribute to the Messiah.

Most importantly — **they worshiped Him** (Matthew 2:11).

#### **Emmaus Reflection Questions:**

1. How do the Magi's gifts reflect Jesus' identity as King and Savior?
2. What does their worship teach us about discipleship?
3. What is one "best gift" (time, focus, obedience) you can offer Jesus this week?

#### **Weekend — Encountering the King Changes Your Direction**

##### **Read Slowly:**

- Matthew 2:1–12 (entire passage)
- Isaiah 11:1–10
- Revelation 19:11–16

After encountering Jesus, the Magi were warned in a dream and returned home another way (Matt. 2:12).

This is a powerful discipleship picture:

When you truly encounter the King, you never return the same way you came.

Isaiah 11 points forward to Messiah's future reign — reminding us again that the prophets spoke of both His first and second coming.

#### **Final Emmaus Reflection Questions:**

1. How does Matthew 2 show both first coming fulfillment and future Kingdom hope?



2. In what ways has encountering Jesus changed your direction in life?
3. Are you responding to Jesus more like the Magi, the priests, or Herod?

### **Prayer Focus This Week**

Pray that God would:

- Deepen your hunger to seek Jesus
- Help you worship Him as King, not just admire Him
- Align your life with His Kingdom purposes

### **Weekly Discipleship Challenge (The Burn Practice)**

Each day ask:

“Jesus, as You open the Scriptures, help my heart burn and my life change direction.”

Like the Magi, seek Him intentionally.

Like Joseph, obey Him faithfully.

Like the Emmaus disciples, walk with Him through the Scriptures.