

**Wise Men Seek Him**  
**Christmas Celebration**  
**Matthew 2:1-12**  
Pastor Jeff Burkholder  
December 17, 2023

**This Christmas...**

- 1. Recognize God is pursuing you.** (John 6:44; Revelation 3:20)

Questions for reflection:

- When have I sensed God pursuing me?
- Why is God pursuing me?

- 2. Bow down in worship.** (Romans 12:1)

Questions for reflection:

- What is getting in the way of my worship of God?
- What do I worship other than God?
- How will I worship God this week?

- 3. Offer God your heart.** (Matthew 15:7-9, 22:37-38)

Questions for reflection:

- What am I hanging onto that is keeping me from offering God my heart?
- Is God knocking on the door of my heart? Am I willing to let Him in?

“It is here, in the thing that happened at the first Christmas, that the profoundest and most unfathomable depths of the Christian revelation lie. ‘The Word was made flesh’ (John 1:4); God became man; the divine Son became a Jew; the Almighty appeared on earth as a helpless human baby, unable to do more than lie and stare and wriggle and make noises, needing to be fed and changed and taught to talk like any other child. And there was no illusion or deception in this: the babyhood of the Son of God was a reality. The more you think about it, the more staggering it gets. Nothing in fiction is so fantastic as is this truth of the incarnation.”

J.I. Packer, *Knowing God*, Hodder and Stoughton, London, 1973, p. 53.