



Week 5

## The Visit of the Magi

Matthew 2:1-12

After Jesus was born in Bethlehem in Judea, during the time of King Herod, Magi from the east came to Jerusalem<sup>2</sup> and asked, "Where is the one who has been born king of the Jews? We saw his star in the east and have come to worship him."<sup>3</sup> When King Herod heard this he was disturbed, and all Jerusalem with him.<sup>4</sup> When he had called together all the people's chief priests and teachers of the law, he asked them where the Christ was to be born.<sup>5</sup> "In Bethlehem in Judea," they replied, "for this is what the prophet has written:<sup>6</sup>" "But you, Bethlehem, in the land of Judah, are by no means least among the rulers of Judah; for out of you will come a ruler who will be the shepherd of my people Israel."<sup>7</sup> Then Herod called the Magi secretly and found out from them the exact time the star had appeared.<sup>8</sup> He sent them to Bethlehem and said, "Go and make a careful search for the child. As soon as you find him, report to me, so that I too may go and worship him."<sup>9</sup> After they had heard the king, they went on their way, and the star they had seen in the east went ahead of them until it stopped over the place where the child was.<sup>10</sup> When they saw the star, they were overjoyed.<sup>11</sup> On coming to the house, they saw the child with his mother Mary, and they bowed down and worshiped him. Then they opened their treasures and presented him with gifts of gold and of incense and of myrrh.<sup>12</sup> And having been warned in a dream not to go back to Herod, they returned to their country by another route.

1. A wise man's journey is one of \_\_\_\_\_.

Hebrews 11:1-3, 6

Now faith is being sure of what we hope for and certain of what we do not see.<sup>2</sup> This is what the ancients were commended for.<sup>3</sup> By faith we understand that the universe was formed at God's command, so that what is seen was not made out of what was visible.

<sup>6</sup>And without faith it is impossible to please God, because anyone who comes to him must believe that he exists and that he rewards those who earnestly seek him.

- Close encounters are for those who have \_\_\_\_\_ to their \_\_\_\_\_.
- Close encounters are for those who fully \_\_\_\_\_ to an incomplete \_\_\_\_\_.
- Close encounters are for those whose journey of faith has \_\_\_\_\_ and \_\_\_\_\_.

2. A wise man's journey is one of \_\_\_\_\_.

- Close encounters are for those who know to \_\_\_\_\_ in the presence of a \_\_\_\_\_.
- Worship always involves \_\_\_\_\_ and \_\_\_\_\_.

II Samuel 24:24

But the king replied to Araunah, "No, I insist on paying you for it. I will not sacrifice to the LORD my God burnt offerings that cost me nothing." So David bought the threshing floor and the oxen and paid fifty shekels of silver for them.

Romans 12:1

Therefore, I urge you, brothers, in view of God's mercy, to offer your bodies as living sacrifices, holy and pleasing to God—this is your spiritual act of worship.

The greatest gift – the greatest sacrifice – you can give to God is yourself.

3. A wise man's journey is one of \_\_\_\_\_.

- A close encounter with Christ always leaves us returning home on a \_\_\_\_\_.