

LIFE LESSONS – Making It Live

Pastor David Welsh | “The Miraculous & the Magi” | Matthew 2:1-16 | Dec. 10-11

Christmas is the season for seeking.

What is the Lord putting on your heart this year? The Magi were on a mission to discover and see... There is something almost magical when we are moved to look for something that is hidden! “Where is He who has been born King of the Jews? For we saw His star in the east, and have come to worship Him.” How do you think they received this information? How did God plant this mission in their hearts? They had the position, the authority, and the wherewithal to pursue this venture and obviously God gave them a star to lead them! **Discuss:** Christmas is a wonderful time to ponder the question “what am I seeking” with my life, my hope, my dreams???

O’ Worship the King

How will you worship the King of Kings in your life this season and this year? One thing is for certain, whenever someone sincerely seeks God, God always reveals Himself. The Magi came with a purpose, not just to find the newborn “King of the Jews,” but also to worship Him! **Discuss:** God was not simply using them to spotlight who Jesus was, but they were to know that the Savior was also theirs to receive! John 1:12 gives us the promise that “But as many as received Him, to them He gave the right to become children of God, even to those who believe in His name.” With all the distractions of the Christmas season, **share** how we can be a part of the mission of the Magi, which was to “To Worship Him!”

Amazing Gift

What would be an appropriate way to worship and rejoice in the Lord for your salvation for eternity? **Share** how all of us could have a hint of Herod in our hearts. Not to the extreme of this tyrant, but how we too are tempted by power and control; and if left unchecked, they can wreak havoc in our relationship. The fact of our being born with a sin nature means we will continually be reminded that we are redeemed only by the blood of Jesus Christ and through no works of our own. And “inasmuch as it is appointed for men to die once and after this comes judgment, so Christ also, having been offered once to bear sins of many, shall appear a second time for salvation without reference to sin, to those who eagerly await Him.” What an amazing gift!

Make an Appointment

How could you better participate in the worship and adoration of Jesus Christ in your life and family? The church has long thrived on those who have a desire to worship and adore. In eternity we will have no problem worshipping and adoring our Lord and Savior. **Discuss:** How today, for most people, our focus is to worship and adore the secular, the things, the longing for the stuff we wish we had. **Share** how we can make some appointments on our calendar or “to do lists” to involve ourselves in times of worship and adoration that help us focus and draw close to the Lord. How could we do some investigation into the meaning of true worship, meditation, and adoration of our Lord?

Used for His Kingdom

How will the Lord use you this Christmas season? **Discuss:** Every time a person is seeking the way to Jesus, God will put a star, a travel guide, into that seeker’s life to show the way. Because you have accepted Jesus Christ as your Lord and Savior, He will desire to use you as a person who will show others the way. “There was the true light which, coming into the world, enlightens every man...But as many as received Him, to them He gave the right to become children of God even to those who believe in His name, who were born not of blood, nor of the will of the flesh, nor of the will of man, but of God.” The Magi were available. **Share** how you think God wants you to be available to be used for His kingdom this Christmas season.

Written by Ross Lamp