



Matthew 2:1-12 (NIV) ¹After Jesus was born in Bethlehem in Judea, during the time of King Herod, Magi from the east came to Jerusalem ²and 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." ³When King Herod heard this he was disturbed, and all Jerusalem with him. ⁴When 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. ⁵"In Bethlehem in Judea," they replied, "for this is what the prophet has written: ⁶'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.' ⁷Then Herod called the Magi secretly and found out from them the exact time the star had appeared. ⁸He 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." ⁹After 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. ¹⁰When they saw the star, they were overjoyed. ¹¹On 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. ¹²And having been warned in a dream not to go back to Herod, they returned to their country by another route.

1. Wise Searchers _____ Carefully.

After Jesus was born in Bethlehem in Judea, during the time of King Herod, Magi from the east came to Jerusalem 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." (Matthew 2:1-2)

A. Wise searchers observe what is happening in the world.

B. Wise searchers ask questions.

C. Wise searchers pay the price to find the answers.

You will seek me and find me when you seek me with all your heart. (Jeremiah 29:13)

2. Wise Searchers Experience God's _____.

A. You can react like Herod and be afraid.

B. You can react like the masses who were indifferent.

C. You can react like the Magi who found joy.

(over)

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. When they saw the star, they were overjoyed. (Matthew 2:9-10)

The thief comes only to steal and kill and destroy; I have come that they may have life, and have it to the full. (John 10:10)

3. Wise Searchers _____ the Gift.

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. (Matthew 2:11)

And having been warned in a dream not to go back to Herod, they returned to their country by another route. (Matthew 2:12)

Want to Go Deeper?

- Memorize Matthew 2:11.
- What is your next step on your search for the truth about Jesus?
- Who will you invite to Christmas services?
- If you are ready to accept God's invitation to a new life, let us know and we will help you with next steps.
- Read *The Case for Christmas* by Lee Strobel.

Please let us know the commitments you are making to God by using the Communication Card. We will pray for you.