

MARINERS CHURCH



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Don't Miss Christmas

Matthew 2
12.19.21

About that time some wise men from eastern lands arrived in Jerusalem, asking, "Where is the newborn king of the Jews? We saw his star as it rose, and we have come to worship him."

King Herod was deeply disturbed when he heard this, as was everyone in Jerusalem. He called a meeting of the leading priests and teachers of religious law and asked, "Where is the Messiah supposed to be born?" "In Bethlehem in Judea," they said.

Then Herod called for a private meeting with the wise men, and he learned from them the time when the star first appeared. Then he told them, "Go to Bethlehem and search carefully for the child. And when you find him, come back and tell me so that I can go and worship him, too!"

After this the wise men went their way. And the star they had seen in the east guided them to Bethlehem. It went ahead of them and stopped over the place where the child was. When they saw the star, they were filled with joy! They entered the house and saw the child with his mother, Mary, and they bowed down and worshiped him. Then they opened their treasure chests and gave him gifts of gold, frankincense, and myrrh. Matthew 2:1-11 (NLT)

Those that missed Christmas...

Religious guys

Herod

"Where is the **newborn** king of the Jews? We saw his star as it rose, and we have come to worship him." Matthew 2:2 (NLT)

Herod was furious when he realized that the wise men had outwitted him. He sent soldiers to kill all the boys in and around Bethlehem who were two years old and under, based on the wise men's report of the star's first appearance. Matthew 2:16 (NLT)

If you try to hang on to your life, you will lose it. But if you give up your life for my sake, you will save it. Luke 9:24 (NLT)

Today in the town of David a Savior has been born to you; he is Christ the Lord. Luke 2:11 (NIV)

What is the fourth gift? **WORSHIP**

Talk it Over! For my thoughts and LifeGroup*

Do you have (or did you have) a 'quirky' family tradition you always did on or around Christmas? What was it?

Read Matthew 2 (the Christmas story) and share what you know (or have learned) about the Magi and their journey.

What was Herod's problem? How can God be a "threat" to someone's life?

What is 'surrendering to God' all about? Talk about your experiences with it. What keeps a person from surrendering to God?

Talk about the 'fourth gift' and how you will be giving that gift this year.

Pray for each other!

*A LifeGroup is a group of people who are committed to loving each other and growing through times like these. For more information, connect with Pastor Len at len@marinerscc.org