



SERMON

DISCUSSION QUESTIONS

Speaker: Chris Royalty

Sunday: December 6, 2020

- 1) Begin your time by briefly praying and asking the Holy Spirit to help you as you discuss and study.
- 2) Read Matthew 2:1-12 together.
- 3) What stuck out to you as you read? Was there anything that you didn't understand? Discuss.
- 4) Leon Morris says this about the wise men:

Wise men are not people endowed with wisdom in general, but students of the stars: "a (Persian ... then also Babylonian) wise man and priest, who was expert in astrology, interpretation of dreams and various other secret arts" (BAGD). *REB* renders the term "astrologers." *From the East* is very general; many interpreters hold that these wise men came from Babylon, and they may have done so, but we cannot be sure. Their study of the stars had led them to believe that a great leader had been born in Judea. That being so, they naturally directed their steps to Jerusalem,⁸ the capital city. These men would have been Gentiles, but Matthew gives this no emphasis. ¹

How does this explanation of the wise men change how you think about them?

- 5) How was God seeking to draw these wise men to himself? How did God draw you to himself? How did you feel him seeking you?
- 6) Read Matthew 19:23-30 together.
- 7) What stuck out to you as you read? Was there anything that you didn't understand? Discuss.
- 8) Why is it so hard for wealthy people to inherit the Kingdom of God?
- 9) How can we protect ourselves from the danger of wealth? How can we use the wealth that God has given us to glorify God?
- 10) End your time in prayer. Ask the Holy Spirit to help apply to your life what you've been learning and discussing.

Prayer Focus :: Pray for our country, our leaders, and the continuing struggle the world is having with the pandemic. Pray for relief and for Jesus to make himself known.

¹ Leon Morris, [The Gospel according to Matthew](#), The Pillar New Testament Commentary (Grand Rapids, MI; Leicester, England: W.B. Eerdmans; Inter-Varsity Press, 1992), 35–36.