

A Season of Sacrifice

Part 2: The Wise Men (Magi)

Matthew 2:1-14

Launch

What is the most memorable Christmas present you've ever received?

Explore

Read the passage

Why was Herod troubled when he learned that the magi had come to worship the King of the Jews? What was his motivation for wanting them to report back to him?

What are some assumptions we've made about the magi that aren't based on the text? What things about the magi are not typical for most people who would have been excited to worship the Messiah?

What did the gifts of gold, frankincense, and myrrh represent, both symbolically and practically?

Apply

What does it mean to "worship"? How has your understanding of worship changed over the years? How can giving to others be an act of worship?

"If people are searching for spiritual truth, God will direct them to Jesus."
Agree or disagree? Why?

How has God worked supernaturally, both apart from people and through people, to meet your needs?

Pray

Pray that we would joyfully worship God by giving generously to people in need, during this Christmas season and beyond.