

# THE WONDER OF HIS JOY

Matthew 2:1-12, 19-20

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INTRO:

1. Losing the wonder of Christmas
2. Discovering the wonder of Christmas

## A. HEROD'S SEARCH FOR JESUS

1. The trouble of knowing Jesus (v. 3)
2. The threat of worshipping Jesus (v. 8)

## B. MAGI'S SEARCH FOR JESUS

1. The joy of finding Jesus (v. 10)
2. The joy of worshipping Jesus (v. 11a)
3. The joy of giving to Jesus (v. 11b)

CONCLUSION

A battle of two kings in our hearts:

1. King Herod (v. 19)
2. King of Kings (v. 20)

## TABLE TALK QUESTIONS

1. What do you like and don't like about Christmas?
2. Read Matthew 2:1-3. The word for troubled in Greek (*tarraso*) means agitated or disturbed. Why was Herod and the rest of Jerusalem troubled by the news about a baby who was born?
3. Read Matthew 2:7-8. What is suspicious regarding Herod's motivation to worship Jesus? Why is the reality of Jesus birth and resurrection being offensive and troubling to other people?
4. Share your thoughts regarding Timothy Keller's statement from his book, *Hidden Christmas*, "*The world ultimately stems from the self-centeredness, self-righteousness, and self-absorption of the human heart. In every heart, there is a little 'King Herod' that wants to rule and that is threatened by anything that may compromise its omnipotence and sovereignty. Each of us wants to be the captain of our own soul, the master of our fate.*"
5. Read Matthew 2:10 and also Isaiah 9:2. What is the significance of the star and the response of joy by the magi?
6. Read Matthew 2:11. The tradition of giving gifts during Christmas has their roots from this narrative. But many times, this has overshadowed the original expression of the magi giving gifts to Christ. What significant gifts can we give to Christ this Christmas?
7. As you close your Life Group, family reflection or personal devotion, how would you make this Christmas this year different from the years past?