



“Seeking God’s King”

Matthew 2:1-15

BIBLIOGRAPHY:

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Head: Understanding the Bible

“Faith...is not produced strictly by emotional need, nor should it be. People come to faith in God through a mix of rational, personal and relational reasons.”

~Timothy Keller, Making Sense of God: An Invitation to the Skeptical

- 1) Read Matthew 2:1-15. How did God get your attention before you came to faith in Jesus Christ? What made you start searching to see if He is real? What alerted the wise men to the birth of King Jesus?
- 2) Vs. 6 is a quote from Micah 5:2. and 2 Samuel 5:2. Compare what Micah says about Bethlehem and what Matthew says. Why is the quote different? What is Matthew trying to say that Micah says?
- 3) What are the different reactions to the announcement of the birth of God’s promised King? Who has the response we ought to imitate? Why is this surprising?
- 4) Reflect on who gets the invitation to be witnesses of Jesus’ birth. Who is included in the traditional nativity scene?

Heart: Using the Gospel on Our Affections

“[Those afraid of God] are displeased that God accepts no man’s merit but has free mercy. They ought to rejoice because He has not put our hope in ourselves but only in Himself, in His mercy.”

~Martin Luther, Reading Romans with Luther

- 5) Read 1 Corinthians 1:18-25. Why did God include you and me in the worship of Jesus, His King, according to Paul? What are we to meditate on as we boast in Jesus’ wisdom, righteousness, sanctification and redemption? (1 Cor. 1:28-31)

Hands: Applying the Gospel to Our Lives

“May the grace of Christ our Savior and the Father’s boundless love, with the Holy Spirit’s favor rest upon us from above. Thus may we abide in union with each other and the Lord and possess, in sweet communion, joys which earth cannot afford.”

~John Newton, “Benediction”, Trinity Hymnal #730

- 6) What do the wise men teach us about the use of our reason and thinking in the search for God? What do the people of Jerusalem and the scribes and Pharisees teach us about the role of Scripture in searching for God’s King? What does this teach us about evangelism?
- 7) Seemingly insignificant places and people are used by God in seeking us through the birth of His Son. What kind of people are God seeking? How should this shape the way we look at the people and places around us? And ourselves? Who are you overlooking?
- 8) Take time to pray for the mission of Hope Church. Pray for us to see the wisdom of God in Christ, seeking the insignificant. Pray God would use ordinary ways to get people to discover Jesus in the Scriptures.