

# Small Group Discussion Questions

Series: Immanuel: God with Us

Speaker: Jay Haugh

Message: Wise Guys Worship

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Memory Verse: Matthew 1:21 NIV

She will give birth to a son, and you are to give him the name Jesus, because he will save his people from their sins.

*The goal of these questions is to foster meaningful discussion and to encourage participants to reflect on God's Word to lead to heart transformation. Feel free to modify or expand upon these questions based on the dynamics and needs of your Small Group.*

**Big Idea:** Jesus Christ is the real shepherd King for all people.

## Read Matthew 2:1-12

1. How does Herod's reaction to the news of the Messiah's birth reveal his character and priorities? In what ways might Herod's fear and jealousy be present in our own lives or in our culture today? How can we be more like the magi than like Herod?
2. How can we, like the magi, seek out and worship Jesus so that we may worship Him with our whole hearts, minds, and souls? What practical steps can we take to deepen our relationship with Him? What have you done recently that has helped you in this way?
3. While we don't know exactly where the magi came from, it could have taken them more than a year to arrive in Israel. With a journey that long, there were likely hardships that may have caused the magi to consider turning around. But they didn't. We also have hardships on our journey through life. When things get hard and seem complicated, what do you do?



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4. The religious leaders knew where the Messiah was to be born but didn't go to see Him. Herod asked the magi to report back to him. Do you ever rely on others to do for you what you should be doing yourself? For example, do you ask others to pray for you, but you don't spend time in prayer yourself? In what ways is it important to be a self-feeder? In what ways are we called, as a body of believers, to support and edify one another in community?
5. When the wise men saw the star again, they "rejoiced with exceedingly great joy." What brings you joy in your faith? How do you cultivate a heart of rejoicing, especially when the journey feels long or unclear? What is your level of joy during Christmas?
6. The magi offered costly gifts to Jesus that acknowledged His kingship and purpose. If you were to give Jesus a gift today that reflects your worship and love for Him, what would it be and why? How might you worship Christ through your time, talents, resources, and attitude in this season?
7. The star served as a guide that led the wise men to Jesus. What led you to Jesus? How can your life be a "star" that points others to Christ? Who in your life might be searching for Jesus, and how can you help guide them?
8. The star led the wise men to Jesus, meeting them where they were as astronomers. In what ways has God uniquely guided you based on your background, gifts, or interests? How can you be more attentive to His guidance in your life?



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