# **Stories of Christmas: Magi Searching**

Discussion Guide for November 29<sup>th</sup> and 30<sup>th</sup>, 2025

## **Summary**

This weekend we begin our Christmas series by exploring a theme that runs through Scripture and through each of our lives: searching. From the wise men traveling hundreds of miles under a mysterious star, to Nicodemus seeking answers under the cover of night, to modern stories of people looking for truth and hope—our souls are wired to search for God.

The sermon reminds us that God is a storytelling God, and Christmas is the ultimate story of God entering our world to be found. The wise men searched for a king and discovered Jesus. Nicodemus searched for truth and found that truth in Christ. And just like them, every person today carries a Godshaped longing that only Jesus can fill.

This weekend challenges us to reflect on our own search: What are we looking for? What draws us toward God? And how is Jesus inviting us to find Him in this season?

## **Intro Prayer**

Lord, thank You for being a God who speaks, leads, and reveals Yourself. As we gather today, open our hearts to understand the depth of Your story and the purpose behind our searching. Help us see Jesus clearly—the One who meets us in our questions, our longings, and our deepest needs. Amen.

#### **Ice Breaker**

What's one story from your childhood—or your family's Christmas traditions—that you still remember vividly? Why do you think that story stayed with you?

#### **Key Verses**

- 1. Matthew 2:1-11
- 2. Galatians 2:20
- 3. Jeremiah 29:13

#### Questions

- **1.** We saw two very different searches—one driven by worship, one driven by fear (Herod). What do you think truly motivates your search for God in this season?
- 2. The sermon emphasized that our souls naturally search for meaning and truth. What are people your age most commonly searching for—and why does it often leave them empty?
- 3. The wise men traveled far, sacrificed greatly, and rejoiced when they finally found Jesus. What does their example teach us about the cost—and joy—of pursuing Christ?
- **4.** Nicodemus struggled to understand spiritual truth even though he was educated and religious. Where do you wrestle with understanding faith? What parts still confuse or challenge you?
- 5. Jesus said we must be "born again." What does spiritual transformation look like in real life?

## **Life Application**

This week, reflect on this question:



"Where in my life am I still trying to find meaning apart from Jesus—and what would it look like to let Him meet me there?"

# **Key Takeaways**

- 1. We are all searching—because God designed our souls to long for Him.
- 2. The Christmas story is filled with seekers—wise men, shepherds, and even religious leaders.
- 3. All true searching ultimately ends at the feet of Jesus.
- 4. God promises to be found by those who seek Him with their whole heart.

## **Ending Prayer**

Father, thank You for being a God who draws near to those who seek You. Help us to search with honest hearts and open hands. Reveal Jesus to us in deeper ways this Christmas season. Give us courage like the wise men, humility like Nicodemus, and faith to keep going until we find what our souls long for. In Jesus' name, amen.

