



The Wonder of Christmas

The Wonder of Christmas Week 2

Day 1: The God Who Still Speaks

Matthew 2:1-12

The Magi traveled 900 miles following a star, while religious leaders living five miles from Bethlehem missed the Messiah entirely. Proximity to spiritual truth doesn't guarantee we'll hear God's voice. The Magi weren't even followers of God, yet they were listening. Meanwhile, those who should have been most attuned were distracted by politics, power, and self-preservation. God is speaking to you today, not just through ancient prophecies, but in the ordinary moments of your life. The question isn't whether God speaks, but whether you're listening. What voices are drowning out the divine in your life? Today, recognize that the God of wonder still communicates with His children.

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Day 2: Recognizing Competing Voices

Mark 4:1-20

Jesus taught that seed falls on different types of soil, representing how we receive God's word. Some seed gets snatched away, some withers, some gets choked by thorns. Then Jesus said something striking: "He who has ears to hear, let him hear." You can have functioning ears yet miss the meaning entirely. What voices compete for your attention? The voice of achievement demanding more? The voice of distraction keeping you numb? The internal critic saying you're not enough? The voice of worry robbing your peace? These voices aren't always bad, but when they dominate, they deafen us to the divine. Like the opera singer deafened by his own voice, we can become so consumed by our own narratives that we can't hear God's truth.

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Day 3: The Danger of Alignment

Matthew 2:3-8, 16-18

When Herod heard about the newborn King, he was disturbed, and all Jerusalem with him. The religious leaders should have celebrated, but they felt threatened because they'd aligned themselves with Herod's power structure. When God's voice challenges the systems we've aligned with, will we listen or protect our position? Consider your alignments: political parties, economic systems, social circles, career paths. These aren't inherently wrong, but when listening to God threatens what makes us comfortable, stable, or accepted, we face a choice. The religious leaders chose their alliance over their Messiah. They traded wonder for worldly security. What systems have you aligned with that might be making it harder to hear God? True freedom comes when we align ourselves first with heaven's kingdom, regardless of earthly cost.

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Day 4: Learning to Recognize His Voice

John 10:1-16

Jesus said His sheep know His voice and follow Him. Just as children can pick out their parent's voice in a crowded gymnasium, we can learn to recognize our heavenly Father's voice amid life's noise. This doesn't happen accidentally. It requires intentional relationship. You can't reproduce what you can't hear. If you want to live the life God designed for you, you must become familiar with how He speaks. Spend time in Scripture, listening to how He spoke to others. His character remains consistent. Create space for Him to speak directly to you through prayer, silence, and stillness. Don't just present your requests and run. Pause. Ask, "God, what do You want to speak to me today?" Familiarity breeds recognition. The more time you spend with Him, the clearer His voice becomes.

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Day 5: Embracing the Wonder

Luke 2:8-20

The shepherds received good news of great joy for all people. They didn't miss the wonder because they were listening. While religious leaders debated theology and King Herod protected his throne, humble shepherds heard heaven's announcement and responded with worship. Wonder isn't reserved for the elite or the deserving. God speaks to ordinary people in ordinary moments, bringing extraordinary revelation. The Christmas message declares that God entered our chaos, confusion, and noise to bring hope, peace, and joy. That same God wants to speak into your circumstances today. You may not be able to turn off every competing voice, but you can tune in to your Father's voice. Stop letting worry, achievement, distraction, or criticism dominate your internal airwaves. Choose today to listen for the God of wonder who still speaks, still moves, and still transforms lives.