



LIFEgroup Discussion Questions

June 27, 2010

Matthew's Gospel: The King and His Kingdom

Read Matthew 2.1-12

1. How would some of the Magi have known about the birth of the Messiah and become true seekers of God (Daniel 5.11)?
2. Why was the eastern empire a source of anxiety for Rome?
3. How did Herod and the people of Jerusalem respond at the coming and questioning of the Magi (2.2-3)?
4. Who did the people of Jerusalem fear more? Read Matthew 10.28-33. What do you fear more? Do the fear of world events and economic disaster seem great than your reverential fear of God? When this is the case temporal things rule and control our life rather than God and the eternal. We should not fear man or the times we live in, but only God. Which fear could give you the greatest sense of freedom?
5. What does Galatians 4.4 tell us about this time period in Matthew 1 and 2?
6. What could the star have been (2.2, 9-10)? What was the point of the star?
7. What addition does Matthew make to his quoting of Micah 5.2? What is the significance of this (2.6)?
8. What are the responses of Herod, the chief priests and scribes, and the magi to Jesus' birth?
9. What was Herod's plan (2.16)? If you have time turn to Revelation 12.1-6 and discuss this which includes the cosmic view of this time period.
10. How do the magi worship Jesus when they see Him (2.11)?
11. Who are you influencing with your life? Daniel hadn't planned on being taken captive to Babylon, but he was the man God was able to use because of his complete trust in Him. Whether you are in a job, a school, working at home, or even in the hospital, make the most of where God has placed you at the present time by influencing others with issues of eternal consequence. You may never know when the seeds that you have laboriously planted will result in others making a commitment to Christ. Make a decision to influence those people you come into contact with in the way of righteousness. Read: 1 Peter 2:11-12

Pray