

The JOURNEYMEN

"We are journeying unto the place of which the LORD said, I will give it to you: come with us, and we will do you good..."

-- Numbers 10:29

Book Study – Matthew 1:1- 2:12

The Genealogy and Birth of Jesus Christ – The Visit from the Magi



Before We Begin Our Journey...

1. Why do you think genealogical research is such a growing and popular hobby?
2. What are the tabloid headlines this week...Why is our society so drawn to gossip and scandal?
3. What prompts people to make great sacrifices for others?



Do Some Digging and Pre-planning...

4. Whose genealogy is Matthew tracing? ([1:1](#))
5. What prominent ancestors of Christ are mentioned? ([1:1](#))
6. What important event and three people are used as a basis for marking the generations? ([1:17](#))
7. What happened to Mary while she and Joseph were engaged? ([1:18](#))
8. What positive character qualities did Joseph possess? ([1:19](#))
9. Why did Joseph change his plans to divorce Mary? ([1:20](#))
10. Why was a powerful king disturbed by the presence of a helpless baby? ([2:3-6](#))
11. What was the Magi's reaction when they realized they had found the Christ? ([2:10](#))



Sort it Out, Organize It, Gain Some Understanding...

12. How do ancestors and family histories affect who we are?
13. What can you do to minimize your family's past mistakes and maximize your family's potential?
14. How might you have responded in Mary's situation?
15. How does our desire for approval or acceptance keep us from doing the right thing?
16. What is worship? Can you define it today? Want a "homework assignment?"
17. On your note-taking paper, write down a few (2-3) "presents" or gifts we might give to Christ.



Application For The Journey...

18. How will you respond the next time someone begins to tell you a juicy bit of gossip?
19. Have you been thinking of some really difficult..."hard to swallow" command of God that you may need to obey today?
20. We have areas that are precious to us. What gift of (time, effort, money, talent?) would demonstrate your love for Jesus this week? Really think about this one...maybe we will open with this next week!

A prayer for your journey...

"Lord Jesus, as I walk through this coming week, help me prepare for my journey by reading my Bible more regularly, seeking help as I need it from my Christian friends and focusing on the needs of others instead of myself. Help me to demonstrate my faith by stepping into the unknown, untried, and untested areas of my life." -Amen