
THE DAY AFTER CHRISTMAS

Word

Scripture Reference

Matthew 2:1-12

Discussion Questions

1. How would you describe your Christmas experience this 2019? What was different this year and what made it special?
2. Read Matthew. 2:1-12. More than a year after Jesus was born, wise men from the East came to Jerusalem. What happened that brought *tarasso* (Greek meaning deeply disturbed; terrified) fear to Herod, the people, and the city of Jerusalem? What great news did they receive? What causes *tarrasso* fear in you? When was the last time you felt tarasso fear?
3. Who are those who can't seem to find Jesus and who are those who find Him? What is their difference? Which side do you see yourself in?
4. Upon leaving Herod's palace, the wisemen saw again the star that appeared to them in the East. Describe their reaction (v. 10). When was the last time you were rejoicing with exceedingly great joy? How can we be like the wisemen in our demonstration of joy, and how can we practice it daily?
5. The star led the wisemen to the place where Jesus was. Describe the wisemen's action towards Jesus (v. 11-12). How did they respond when they saw Jesus? How have we refused God to call the shots in our life? How can we show our obedience to Jesus?
6. Fear vs Joy. Our passage shows us the different responses we can have towards Jesus. What can we do as a group to ensure that we look forward to 2020 with joy instead of fear?

Walk

The message today reminded us of the different responses people have towards Jesus - tarasso fear or joy. May the presence of Jesus in our lives bring exceedingly great rejoicing in our lives to such an extent that it overflows not only through our emotions of joy but also through our daily obedience to Him and our lifestyle of worship.

Worship & Prayer

Our gracious and loving Heavenly Father, we thank You for allowing us to experience the blessing of having Jesus in our lives. Lord, empower us to live with exceedingly great joy knowing that Jesus is with us and we have everything we need. Guide us everyday that we may live a life that is pleasing and glorifying to Your holy name. Allow us to look forward to 2020 with great joy and a challenge to live a life of obedience to You so that we may honor You through the way we live. This is our prayer, in Jesus' name. Amen.