

The ADVENTurous Life

The Advent of Joy

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Mathew 2:1-12

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Introduction: Advent begins with Adventure. When we are introduced to the Jesus of scripture, we can't help but notice that Jesus lived an Adventurous life. When we read through the gospels, there was never a dull moment with Jesus. With the turning of every page, the disciples learned something new about Jesus and also about themselves. They were being spiritually stretched by following Jesus. To look at scripture through the lens of adventure. Life in Jesus Christ should never be boring. Jesus didn't call us to live a mediocre life. From the time he was born until the time of his death and resurrection, there is always this sense of adventure. "Every step we take in this world is a step toward either darkness or light. Every harsh word, every mean act, every vengeful thought is a part of the works of darkness. Every act of forgiveness, every small act of charity, every temptation resisted is a piece of the armor of light."

Prayer: Holy God, we seek you and desire your gift of joy. Open our hearts and minds so that we can receive what you want to give us from this study. Amen

Review: What did you learn from God about work and rest in your life? What were you able to put into practice?

Read: Mathew 2:1-12

Discussion:

1. What is the reaction in Herod's court to the questions of the magi? Is it joy?
2. What are Herod's questions? Why are the answers important to him? What questions do you have about the visit of the magi?
3. What guidance did the Magi receive? What were the sources of that guidance? Have you received guidance in any of these ways? What other ways has God guided you?
4. The magi found great joy in their quest. What is your source of joy? Do others see joy in you? If so, how does joy show in your life?

Application: Look for the gifts that God has given you. With whom can you share the joy of these gifts?

Prayer: Father God, Thank you for your good gifts. We worship you for sending Jesus to us so that we could know you fully. Amen